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In Business Update

Poppy Appeal shatters all the old records in Cowbridge!

COWBRIDGE responded in record-breaking style to last November's Poppy Appeal – passing the £20,000 mark for the first time ever.

A key factor highlighted by organisers was the supportive atmosphere in the town and, in the

final analysis, it was donations from bingo players and local actors that pushed the fund to new heights.

Poppy Appeal organiser David Howell said: "It was clear from the feeling within the town during the collection fortnight that the people of Cowbridge seemed to have taken the appeal to their hearts and given very generously.

"This was borne out when the collection from the streets and the shops, businesses, schools and pubs was counted and was found to be well over £15,000.

"There was a wonderful atmosphere in the town, which was created by a combination of actions, and much of the credit must go to the retailers and businesses in the town – plus the support we received from the Cutting Edge Group.

"Over 60 businesses displayed Cutting Edge's large felt poppies, combined with a sign 'Supporting the Poppy Appeal' in their windows.

"Another dozen or so joined the 'Paint the Town Red' initiative with imaginative and attractive shop window displays. These

contributions, coupled with the large poppies on the lamp posts, created a sea of red and a very moving image."

Mr Howell added: "Although the collection and other income would have helped us create a record-breaking year, it was the generous donations of £1,000 from the Social Fund Bingo; and the takings from the Cowbridge Amateur Dramatics (CADS) performance of their WW1 plays, that took us beyond that £20,000 mark.

"We are extremely grateful for their contributions. May I express my sincere thanks to all who helped.

"Next year's appeal will soon be with us and I hope we can continue in this very positive vein."



Suzi Robertson (purple top) from Cowbridge has been teaching Cambodian village children. See page 4 for her story.

BLACK ICE CAUSES TRAFFIC CHAOS: A48 WAS CLOSED

THERE was traffic chaos in the Vale this week (February 28), after motorists were caught out by black ice.

Police in the Vale told The GEM: "At least six collisions occurred on sections of the A48, the A4226 Five Mile Lane, and the B4270 in Llandow, with many believed to have been caused by cars hitting black ice.

"In one incident, a motorcyclist

was injured after losing control of his bike near the Pentre Meyrick junction of the A48.

"Following the collisions, the A48 was closed between Cowbridge and Culverhouse Cross by the Vale Council Highways department, to allow for gritting to take place.

"The B4270 Llantwit Major Road was also closed in both directions for a short period to allow for recovery work and removal of debris, following

another collision on the Llantwit Major roundabout near Meadow Vale Nursery."

The local policing inspector for Penarth and the Vale of Glamorgan, Gary Smart, speaking on Tuesday, said: "Conditions on many of the roads in the Vale were treacherous this morning.

"Black ice is very difficult to see until it is often too late and we encourage motorists to take extra care, slow down, and allow extra time for their journeys."

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WAITING ON A DREAM...

THE dream of using the Mole at Barry Docks for the pleasures of sailing and learning, is one of the more brilliant ideas to have come to the surface for a long time.

If by chance it could also be used to train younger people how to use the forgotten area which is underwater, that would also be of great interest to some.

What I do find more than frustrating is that yet again, we are talking years to finish such a brilliant project – 27 groups with 1,700 children use it now – I would have to guess that other than football, it must be the most used venue in Barry.

Using that assumption, why has it

taken four years to get to this stage, and now being told it could take quite a few more years to come to the end result? I have 10 grandchildren living in the area, one who loves to be under more than above!

Why does it take years to get something good started and then finished? Looking at Barry's track record, we will still be talking about this in 10 years' time.

I am over the moon that some parks are having a great makeover. Now I think there should be a great push from all in Barry and those outside, to get this finished within two years.

I would like to see at least one project finished inside the usual 10-year talking time. We all await the outcome.

Robert Darer, Barry.

'Economics and truth'

NOBODY in their right mind believes that civilisation could, or should, be built upon dishonest science or mendacious mathematics.

Truth must be the bedrock of any human society which can survive into the future.

But economists who come out of our universities all know that in our global economic system, eight people possess as much of the planet's resources, as 50 per cent of the world's poorest inhabitants – 3.5 billion people.

No-one can pretend that this is an efficient system. However, these educated graduates are determined never to

mention the truth when they lecture us, lest the more intelligent citizens might begin to take a thoughtful and critical interest in the whole rotten and inefficient structure.

But it shows how unjustly market forces are employed to make the rest of us accomplices to, and victims of, a corrupt economic system.

Our form of distorted civilisation is based upon a dishonest economy, a dishonest media, and dishonest advertising.

It is a wonder that we have any honest children growing up, after they have struggled through years of those ambushes of wilful lies.

Why not insist on truth?

C N Westerman, Brynna.

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An email address alone is not sufficient!

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'Smaller Vale villages have been urbanised'

COUN Moore's self-appraisal of the successes achieved by his Labour-led Vale Council (The GEM, last week) reads like an application to re-apply for his financially rewarding job.

As with all such self-appraisals, it failed to address issues that have caused irritation, annoyance and frustration during his tenure as our council leader, among which are above-inflation council tax increases over the past four years, the unjustified spend of £250K on the council chamber, a downgrading

of services in certain areas and, of course, the ridiculous housing policy with regard to new builds.

It is well documented that the decision to target the building of circa 10,000 new homes was in excess of the requirement of the Wales Government, and also at variance with the numbers estimated by reports produced by the council itself.

What followed, as readers of The GEM will be fully aware, was an attack on the green areas of the Vale generally and the rural areas in particular, with planning applications being approved on a large scale on sites where applications for smaller scale developments had

been refused. The result is that smaller villages have been 'urbanised' by unsympathetic developments.

The common thread with all these applications is that they were approved despite wholesale objections from local communities, who in many instances, went to the financial expense of engaging external experts to highlight the dangers of such developments.

However, expert opinions were over-ruled – because the planners knew best, a preposterous claim by a relatively inexperienced planning team. What is of equal concern is that members of the planning committee also showed no regard to the overall damage that these developments would have on the surrounding areas.

At the same time, the council has been silent as to why the numerous brownfield sites around the Vale which are an eyesore, of which the prime example is the one at Llandow, are being ignored for development.

Am I being too cynical to suggest that the relatively low financial value of section 106 agreements that

seem part and parcel of planning permission mean that our council have no interest in seeing such sites developed?

The legacy of this council can be seen in the urban and unsympathetic developments that have blighted so many of our Vale villages.

However, it has to be said that the failure by the previous Conservative administration to ensure that an LDP was in place prior to the last local elections created an opportunity for developers whose only motive is profit – which they have exploited to the full and, it would appear, supported by the current administration.

It is clear that an important issue like housing policy is not safe in the hands of 'here today often gone tomorrow' politicians whose short-term approach risks errors being made that future generations have to live with.

Perhaps Coun Moore might include this additional information in future self appraisals.

Gareth Jones.

Thank you to helpful heroes!

A HUGE "thank you" to the three great guys who came to my aid yesterday afternoon, by changing a wheel on my vehicle in Waitrose car park!

I interrupted them when they were having a quiet coffee in a nearby cafe, and without any hesitation, they came to the rescue, despite the rain and no doubt having other more pressing things to do.

I sincerely hope that they, or someone who knows them, will read this and know how grateful I am. It shows how helpful and generous people can be!

Cathy Crompton, Flemingston.

Look behind the statistics!

RECENT news reports state the Vale of Glamorgan has the fifth highest number of low environmental scores in the UK.

That is, a large number of catering establishments in the Vale are ranked fifth from the bottom for poor performance, out of all areas in the UK.

This statistic, although true, is misleading – as it misrepresents the true status of many establishments – because the survey provides no linked comparison or benchmark for the performance and the monitoring of the inspectors.

It's important the public are aware there is another contributing factor to the statistic. I am involved in the training and operation of establishments throughout Great Britain. I find the Vale of

Glamorgan inspectors often express new critiques that are perplexing and differ from the methodology of their colleagues.

They seem to operate in an independent, and sometimes draconian manner, that is unfortunate when compared to the commencement of the scheme which was of good programme-building with cooperation and discussion.

We found this permitted a valuable topic that could be further discussed with customers, but now the assessments are so difficult to comprehend and predict.

Surely, the answer has to be for improvement that a senior Vale of Glamorgan Council officer consults with other local government authorities to determine best practice?

John Campbell, St Nicholas.

(Baxterstorey)

MP'S CALL ON MARATHON RUN

IN a number of weeks, I hope to complete the London Marathon to support local mental health sufferers and pensioners across Barry and the Vale.

My charities this year are Heads Together and the Vale branch of Age Connects, which includes the Senior Health Shop and Friends and Neighbours group.

The Senior Health Shop on Barry's Holton Road plays a significant part in keeping older people independent. It is not only a place to socialise, make new friends and have a cuppa but is also a one-stop-centre for information with volunteers and staff on hand to answer any queries.

Activities such as exercise classes, computer training, stitching and knitting sessions, health checks, quizzes and afternoon teas all take place regularly.

The popular Friends and Neighbours social group is invaluable to groups at risk of isolation and loneliness. The group offers trips, local lunches, as well as monthly meetings at Beryl Road Pioneer Hall in Barry.

Heads Together is a group of mental health charities aimed at

removing the stigma surrounding mental health. I am concerned that mental health cases are increasing locally and nationally, and the charities raise awareness and provide vital help for people with mental health challenges.

Led by The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry, Heads Together is working to help people find the mental health support they need, when they need it. Heads Together will support development of innovative projects to bring together the exceptional skills and expertise of our partner charities and others, to get more help to more people.

I appreciate many calls are made in favour of needy causes and hope you are able to extend your generosity to help these charities. Knowing that funds depend on me completing the 26.2 mile course has a major influence on my motivation and morale along the highs and lows of the route.

My Virgin Money Giving page is: uk.virginmoneygiving.com/AlunCairns.

Many thanks in advance for your support and donation to two fantastic and charities in the Vale of Glamorgan. Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP, Vale of Glamorgan.

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OBITUARY – PIERO FAMA

Cowbridge restaurateur 'brought colour to many lives'

A famous name from Cowbridge's past has passed away, and a good friend has written the following obituary.

The Reverend Glyn Austin was not a minister when he first met Piero Fama – the restaurateur who brought Basil's to Cowbridge.

In fact, Glyn Austin lived above Basil's and worked there, before taking holy orders in 1990.

As local people will know, Mr Fama sold up and moved away but the Rev Austin stayed in touch and has supplied this obituary of a good friend.

My friend Piero Fama, who passed away last year, was a well-known restaurateur in south Wales during the 1970s and '80s. In 1983 he opened Basil's Brasserie in Cowbridge.

Piero hailed from Taormina in Sicily. He arrived in London during the swinging sixties and worked for some time at the legendary Hungry Horse on Fulham Road.

Piero was full of wonderful, and sometimes racy stories



The late Piero Fama.

about the customers at The Hungry Horse.

In the very early '70s, Piero and his family opened The Harvesters in what was then a distinctly unfashionable part of Cardiff.

The Harvesters in Pontcanna Street, modelled partly on the success of The Hungry Horse, proved to be an incredibly successful venture.

When I worked there in the mid-'70s, the restaurant was listed in the Good Food Guide and it was buzzing! It was a magnet for local people and visiting celebrities.

Whilst Piero was living and working in Pontcanna he learned Welsh – he was a gifted linguist, and would make a point of welcoming Welsh speakers to the restaurant in their mother tongue.

He also appeared on

Welsh language television demonstrating some of his recipes. Indeed, you could argue that Piero was a forerunner of the celebrity chef. That thought would have made him laugh, I am sure.

Basil's Brasserie in Cowbridge, like the Harvesters before it in the 1970s, was a busy restaurant. It soon had a loyal core of regulars.

Piero shared the cooking in those days but his attention to detail and his wide range of culinary influences were always apparent on the menu.

Piero was one of life's characters. He was proud of his Sicilian roots but the culture of his adopted home was also a source of great interest.

Piero enjoyed opera, played squash and loved good food and red wine. He was well-read and a keen observer of the human condition.

He would roar with laughter at some of the idiocies of modern life. You couldn't call Piero politically correct but he could be very kind and thoughtful.

Piero the restaurateur brought colour to many lives. He was fun to work with.

He retired to Barnstaple in north Devon with his wife Val and died last year after a short illness. Piero's zest for life, his love of red wine and opera remained, Val informs me, unabated.

Rest in peace my friend!

Rev Glyn Austin, Llangennith Vicarage.

COWBRIDGE GROUP PERFORMS AT THE TEMPLE OF PEACE LAUNCH



The group performs at the Temple of Peace.

A very busy year for Monday Club!

WE are blessed at the moment with an enthusiastic and lively bunch of young members in the Cowbridge Monday Club.

They not only greet each other with delight when meeting up each month, but they show a genuine interest in and concern for everyone present.

Their enthusiasm spills over to the helpers, and consequently the atmosphere at our meetings is always one of joy.

We hold a monthly gathering, the evenings of the second Monday of the month, for anyone over 16 with learning disabilities, and anyone interested in joining in and helping.

People come in from Pontyclun and Bridgend, from Barry and Dinas Powys, from Welsh St Donats and Treheringyll, as well as from Cowbridge itself.

Usually we use the newly refurbished Maindy Room at Ramoth chapel from its Broadshard entrance in Cowbridge, but in the summer months we are often outside in or around the town or local area.

We have been meeting now like this for well over 40 years, and so a huge number of different people have joined in our social activities, as our series of scrapbooks display!

Over this past year, from March 2016, we have had energetic evenings of moving around and exercising, wheelchairs and all, culminating in an extremely lively Christmas disco where no-one failed to join in the Abba songs and more.

We played bowls outside the Leisure Centre and Bingo in the hall (one of our group is now an expert caller). The Cowbridge and Llantwit Lions gave us a 'treasure hunt' walkabout in the town centre, followed by refreshments in a local hostelry. The mayor of Cowbridge, Liz George, welcomed us into the council chamber and allowed us the

chance to sit on the 'throne' and wear the chains and robes.

We have wrestled with the selection of ingenious games brought in by members of the Rotary Club, and dressed in saris and turbans for an Indian dance evening; and, very importantly, we learned from Mencap how to keep safe from any unwelcome and uncomfortable approaches.

There was our usual harvest supper in October, with homemade soup, apple crumble and lively entertainment, and ceramic decorations were brightly painted in November to hang on our Christmas tree in the Holy Cross church magical Christmas tree festival.

The annual coach trip in June this year was to the Noah's Ark farm zoo near Clevedon in Somerset, with its large variety of animals, refreshments and gift shop, and plenty of wet weather cover.

Fortunately, the sun shone down on us from the moment we arrived! And just about all the members took part this summer in the Bob Cook games in Swindon, organised so brilliantly by the Lions Club each year for the southern part of Britain.

Thanks to financial help from various organisations, we were able to hire a coach on this occasion and travel together and in comfort.

Everyone took part in at least two or even more events, and medals were awarded at a special ceremony during one of our following meetings.

So a huge 'thank you' is due, for example, to the local Lions who put

Stained Glass Window Festival

THIS year's St Paul's stained glass window festival will be held in Pontyclun on June 10 and 11, ending with songs of praise at 6pm on the Sunday, and this year more windows than ever are expected.

Your 'window' can be any size and made from plastic, paper, card, or material. It can be knitted, quilted, made from ribbon, buttons, pasta etc.

Bring your finished window to St Paul's in Pontyclun on Friday, June 9 between 11am and 6pm. Go on, let your imagination run riot and help towards keeping our churches open for the community!

For more information come to Giles Gallery, Pontyclun between Tuesday and Saturday, or call Sheila Giles on 01443 228638.

ON February 14, the Cowbridge branch of With Music In Mind travelled to the Temple of Peace in Cardiff for the launch of the Wales School of Social Care Research.

Attended by academics, service users and politicians including the Minister for Social Health, Rebecca Evans, the theme of the event was 'Four Hearts Beat As One'.

The With Music In Mind singing group performed a 'flash mob' style version of 'Calon Lan' before managing director Dr Sarah Miles spoke to the audience about how her research led to the formation of With Music In Mind with fellow director Kate Whitestone.

The group then performed three more songs before being invited to stay and contribute to the discussions about social care research and practice.

The group received much praise for their singing and thanks for their contribution to the day.

KATE WHITSTONE

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KATE WHITSTONE

COWBRIDGE HISTORY SOCIETY LECTURE

THE society's next lecture of the season will be on Friday, March 3 at 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall of the Town Hall, Cowbridge.

The talk: 'Three Cardiff Communities: Roath, Splott and Adamstown from pre-Norman times', will be given by Jeff Childs. All welcome! (www.cowbridgehistorysociety.org)

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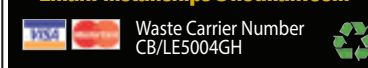
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Varied (and inspiring) start to the year!

MY duties since the Christmas break have been varied and inspiring.

I attended a presentation by Welsh Hearts, a charity whose aim is to install defibrillators in as many locations in Wales as possible, and to train members of the public in the use of these life-saving machines.

There are several defibrillators in various locations in Cowbridge including the Town Hall.

Woody's Lodge is a project based in HMS Cambria, Sully which offers support to the Armed Forces and emergency service veterans. I was invited to attend a presentation sponsored by Jane Hutt AM at the Senedd on a lovely sunny day, which showed the Senedd building off to its best.

In January, I attended a private viewing of the Holocaust Memorial Exhibition entitled 'How can life go on?' hosted by Vale of Glamorgan Arts Development in Barry.

This was a very sobering experience which also highlighted the plight of gypsy communities of Central Europe under the Nazi regimes.

On a lighter note, I

COWBRIDGE MAYOR'S DIARY



by Coun Elizabeth George

was asked by the Cowbridge Guide group to judge the 'Bake a Cake' competition and to present a prize to the winner. It was a difficult choice to make, as all the cakes were delicious! Later, I presented badges to newly-enrolled members of the group.

I also presented prizes to the winners of the creative writing competition held in the Old Hall. The winners read extracts from their successful entries.

The Mayor of Llantwit Major presented a youth music concert in St Illtud's Church in aid of her chosen charities. We were entertained by a variety of musical performances given by young people of the

Vale. The Cowbridge Comprehensive production of the West End musical *Miss Saigon* was amazing, showcasing the many talents of students from the Vale.

It was difficult to remember that we were in the school hall and not a West End Theatre! The singing, dancing, stage presentation and music were testimony to everyone involved.

Of course, I have held two of my regular coffee mornings in the Mayor's Parlour in aid of my chosen charity, The Forget Me Not Chorus.

The next coffee morning is on Saturday, March 4 from 10.30am to 12.30pm. I would be delighted to welcome new faces to these events and share the homemade cakes and coffee!

On Friday, April 28, I will be holding a charity dinner dance at the *St Quentins Suite, Bear Hotel*, in aid of my chosen charity. This also coincides with the conclusion of my year of office.

Posters promoting this event will appear in the town this week and I would welcome support from the people of Cowbridge for what I hope will turn out to be an enjoyable and convivial evening of dining and dancing.

Local volunteer's chance inquiry changed the lives of Cambodian mothers...

SUZI ROBERTSON, who grew up in Cowbridge, describes her recent experience as a volunteer teacher at a rural school in Cambodia.

FOR the majority of the time I spent in Cambodia, I was the only Westerner, but I was warmly welcomed into the rural community.

One morning, while we were eating breakfast, 14-month-old Pauline had an 'accident', which sparked a discussion as to why she did not wear nappies!

I was told that to keep a child in disposable nappies, costs between 50 cents (US) and US\$1 a day. As the average salary for the area is \$40 a month, it's just impossible to spend that much on nappies.

Pauline's father (the school director) talked of his sadness that he could not provide nappies for his baby, and how he knew that this was unsanitary and fuelled many illnesses in the community.

Later that day, I thought that I would send emails to some reusable cloth nappy companies and see if they might be willing to donate. I mentioned this to my sister –

who has used reusable nappies for both her children – and she suggested raising the money to buy some. And so the project was born!

I worked out that if I raised £500, I could buy enough nappies for the village where the school is based. The project was really well received and within a week I had surpassed the £500 target. Word got around quickly and everyone in the village was very excited.

A few days after the target was reached, I received an email from TotsBots (a UK manufacturer of reusable nappies) saying that they had some nappies to donate if I still wanted them.

I jumped at this opportunity, figuring that perhaps I'd get another 50 nappies and I could give some to the babies in the next village.

The Crowdfunder still had three weeks to go and more donations were slowly coming in. I went to the next village and met with three mothers to discuss the project with them. They were very excited and assured me that if I could get them some reusable nappies they would definitely use them.

One of the mothers has twins and the difference this will make to her life is

immense. I came away feeling quite emotional and determined that I would get them some nappies.

I left the school with the promise that I would be back in a month with the nappies and headed to Thailand.

I had six days to cram in some sightseeing in Bangkok, before heading back home to Cowbridge, for a few weeks with my parents and family.

One evening, I was just about to drift off to sleep when I got a text from my mum telling me that 18 boxes of nappies had just been delivered!

TotsBots had donated over 1,800 nappies to the project! That's enough to provide reusable nappies to babies in eight villages.

Needless to say, I was so excited that I barely slept that night. Three days and a 16-hour flight later, I found myself sitting in my childhood home surrounded by boxes of nappies.

I've had a very busy and slightly overwhelming few days – sorting through the boxes and getting quotes to ship them to Cambodia.

And that's how a brief conversation changed the lives of a Cambodian rural community.

SUZI ROBERTSON

LOCAL PUPILS PICK UP SOME MONKS' HABITS IN LLANTWIT!

FOUNDED in around 500 AD by St Illtud, the church in Llantwit Major is one of the oldest Christian sites in Britain and is reputed to be Britain's earliest known centre of learning.

At the western end of the church stands the Galilee Chapel, which was originally a two-storey building constructed in the 13th century, but it was destroyed during the Reformation. However, after around 400 years, it has now been restored as a visitor and education centre.

Over the last few months, the church has welcomed various school parties to undertake a range of activities linked to the story of St Illtud, the notion of pilgrimage, and the Celtic crosses now proudly presented in the Galilee Chapel. This is the largest collection of Celtic crosses outside the National Museum of Wales.

In total, the church has hosted around 200 pupils from local schools and further afield. On Friday, February 17 it was the turn of year-5 from St Andrew's Major Primary School in Dinas Powys to visit. Twenty-eight pupils and staff spent the morning learning about the life and legends of St Illtud and making scallop shells with pilgrimage messages to give to each other.

First, all the pupils dressed up in monks' habits. Then, after the Rector, Father Edwin



Counsell, had welcomed everyone Gareth Kiddie, also attired as a monk, introduced the activities. He led the group making scallop shells, while the other half of the class followed a trail of St Illtud around the church and the surrounding area, led by the church's very own St Illtud, Kath Ewins, also dressed as a monk.

When these two activities were completed, Brother Gareth took the whole class into the Galilee Chapel to explain about the different stones to be seen around the church and especially the Celtic crosses. At the end of the visit, all pupils were given a wooden cross by Father Edwin as a souvenir of their visit, together with a bookmark from the shop, presented by Dilwen Phillips.

The visit was a great success and the church looks forward to welcoming many more schools in the future. Many thanks go to all those who helped with the visit.

DR DAVID ELLIS
Education co-ordinator

AM visits library to say 'well done' to volunteers



Jane Hutt with David Crompton (secretary), Derek Willmot (head of facilities and logistics), Alison Haden (head of development) and Graham Mallaghan (chair and communications).

LAST week, Vale AM Jane Hutt visited the St Athan community library, which is now run by volunteers with the support of the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

With over 16 volunteers, the library is open part-time during the week and has close links

with the school and local organisations like the WI.

Activities are also held such as a craft event for children during half term, and the charity has a tombola to raise funds. On Thursday, March 2 St Athan library will be open from 8.30am – 6.30pm with a variety of events for World Book Day.

Jane Hutt said: "I am

so impressed with the commitment and dedication of the volunteers who have worked so hard to set up this local charity to serve the St Athan community.

It was great to see the computers being used by both children and adults.

"This is a wonderful example of community commitment."

Home is where the heart is..?

'Home is home' ... or is it? That question evinced an emotional response in the audience at February film club presentation in Llantwit Major library.

We were watching the film adaptation of Colm Toibin's book *Brooklyn*, the story of a young Irish girl who emigrates to New York in the 1950s. But can you really tear an innocent young woman away from her small community, her close family, and her roots?

Can she settle in a distant land without an emotional upheaval which could change her forever? And where does her heart really lie? *Brooklyn* explored the nature of separation and loss with great sensitivity and it proved a very popular choice of film.

We're doing it all again on Tuesday, March 7 at 7.30pm, though under the terms of our licence, we're not allowed to advertise what we're showing. But you can easily find out all you want to know by dropping in to Llantwit Major library or phoning 01446 792700.

Either way, we guarantee your enjoyment if you're a fan of acting legends like Dame Helen Mirren, Charles Dance and Jonathan Pryce.

Just call the library to book your place, but do it soon to avoid disappointment! MG

COFFEE TIME!

COUN Sally Hanks, Mayor of Llantwit Major, has been holding coffee mornings in the Town Council chambers on Friday mornings.

The chambers have recently been redecorated and local groups and organisations who hire out the town council buildings are invited to call in for a coffee and take a look.

The next dates for the coffee mornings are March 3, 10 and 17. Why not take a look at the new photograph albums of past mayors and councillors since 1974?

GOT A STORY?
Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

Mahjong afternoon

A MAHJONG afternoon will take place on Thursday, March 16, at 2pm in Llanmaes Village Hall.

All levels welcome, includes taster sessions. Tickets £7, includes refreshments and raffle; all proceeds to World at Play charity.

For further information, call 07498 298862.

COUPLE'S SAD RECORD OF HISTORY LAID WASTE

LAST week, Pam and Cledwyn Lewis, who are well known in Llantwit Major for giving illustrated talks on their holidays abroad, spoke to local Rotarians at the West House Hotel about one holiday which, sadly, because of recent events, could never be repeated.

Pam described holidaying with Cledwyn in the Middle East in 2010, when they visited Jordan and Syria. This, of course, was before the devastating war which has since laid waste to the area – particularly Syria.

Over the years, Pam Lewis's skills with photography have helped to document many parts of Llantwit Major, including St Illtud's Church, giving a wonderful record of that ancient place.

Thankfully, for a number of years Pam and husband Cledwyn have taken holidays in many parts of the world, during which Pam has kept a skilled photographic record.

She explained to club members that as soon as they return from one of their trips abroad, she sits down and writes a detailed record of where they have been, and what they have seen.

In an extraordinary account of their holiday seven years ago Pam described their progress through Jordan and then into Syria. The photographs of Jordan, which has largely escaped the current problems in that part of the world, could still be



President Charles Anderson, Mary Anderson, Pam Lewis and Cledwyn Lewis.

taken today.

The towns visited in Syria, however, including such places as Aleppo, have since been devastated with huge numbers killed and many more people made homeless. Pam and Cledwyn showed photographs of ancient remains, some of which had stood for thousands of years that now, alas, are no more.

Not only have many ancient sites been damaged because of the fighting, but some of the most famous places have been deliberately reduced to rubble.

On behalf of the club, Gareth Rees, who because of his work with the International Baccalaureate examination board had visited the area, particularly Lebanon, thanked Pam and Cledwyn for their talk and for the amazing photographic record they have of what has now vanished.

Junior Soldier Shaw wins two top prizes



A TEENAGE soldier from Llantwit Major won two top prizes when he graduated from the Army Foundation College in Harrogate, North Yorkshire recently.

Junior Soldier Danny Shaw (18) was named the best junior soldier in his intake and the best junior soldier joining the Infantry at the military training establishment in Penny Pot Lane.

The former student of Cowbridge Comprehensive School was presented with his prize as part of a passing out parade from the college.

More than 500 junior soldiers graduated from the college, going on to their Phase 2 training.

Junior Soldier Shaw said: "I didn't enjoy school, but when I got to the Army Foundation College I found that the education was relevant to my future career and I gained all my level 2 key skills."

"I feel really proud to have won two prizes and only told my mum and dad the night before the graduation. They were over the moon to see me march the whole parade off the square – a special privilege for being the top soldier of my intake."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Litter pick in Cowbridge

LOVE Cowbridge/Hate Litter group do a litterpick most months and are looking for volunteers to help with their next community litterpick on Sunday, March 5 starting at 10am for an hour or so.

Meet behind the Town Hall; this is part of the Keep Britain Tidy spring clean event. All kit provided.

Councillor's surgery

LLANTWIT First Independents will be holding a surgery at the Heritage Centre, Town Hall, Llantwit Major on Saturday, March 4 from 9.30am – 11.30am. Residents who have any issues to raise are welcome to attend.

bit of holiday before moving on to the next stage of my training at the Infantry Training Centre in Catterick as I want to join the Parachute Regiment."

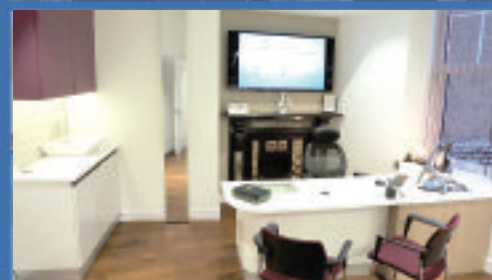
More than 4,000 family members and friends watched the junior soldiers take part in the largest military graduation parade in the country.

Lieutenant Colonel William Strickland, the college's commanding officer, commented on their training and said: "It has been long and hard, and sometimes emotional. The majority proved equal to the test, and they are the future of the British Army. We are proud of their achievements and we are looking forward to their bright futures."

"The soldiers of Waterloo and Cambrai Companies represent the very best of our nation's young people. I have no doubt that they are fully armed and prepared for their second phase of training. I congratulate both Companies, both the junior soldiers and their instructors, on a job very well done."

For information on how to enrol at the Army Foundation College, visit www.army.mod.uk/juniorsoldier

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Christmas in February!

FEBRUARY was an extra special month for the Pen-y-Fai WI ladies – when they attended their belated annual Christmas dinner at Southerndown Golf Club.

The meal proved to be excellent, and was followed by entertainment by Rhianon Giles, a singer from Porthcawl, whose selection of popular songs was well received by the members. The evening proved such a success, there were already thoughts of next year's booking.

The monthly meeting was opened by president Angela Smith, who asked the ladies to stand for a minute's silence for long-standing member and minutes secretary Mavis Hek, who had died after a short illness. Mavis was also a well-loved member of the Pen-y-Fai community.

Names were taken for an educational trip to Hampton Court Castle and Gardens, Herefordshire on May 25 and members noted here is a coffee morning on March 8 at The Pheasant public house.

The speaker for the night was Gayney Jones, who spoke on 'How sewing changed my life'. Gayney holds classes and workshops

on the art of quilting, which she took up seriously when she retired.

She brought along examples of her work for the ladies to examine. Gayney also proved to be an amusing storyteller.

The next meeting will be on March 20, when Sian Llewellyn will speak on 'Love Spoons'. SD

'Don't blame the drivers'

IN response to Sian Vaughan's letter in The GEM, regarding the 'Massive load which came down Llantwit Road', why did she want GEM readers' opinions on the photo of the HGV in Cowbridge?

It's very easy to judge the actions of drivers and operators of such vehicles, but if it was not for people like this, our country would still be stuck in the dark ages with no power, water, or gas!

Ms Vaughan needs to think of this before she puts the kettle on, dries her hair and looks out of the window – a classic case of 'okay, but not on our doorstep'.

John Sloper, St Athan.

Editor's note: The request for readers' views came from The GEM.

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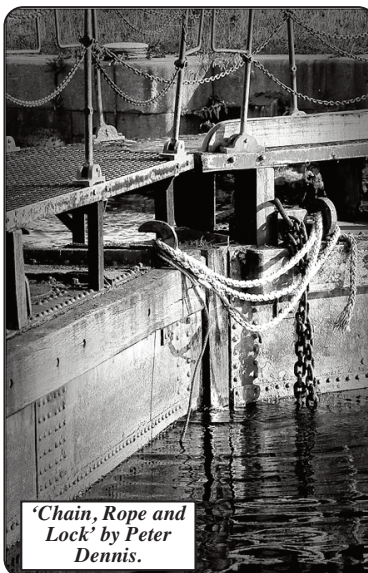
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Vale Photographic Club round-up



'Choosing Today's Mood' by Bridget Craddock.



'Chain, Rope and Lock' by Peter Dennis.

THE start of 2017 has seen a huge variety of activities at Vale Photographic Club.

Member David Allen gave a superb talk, describing his experiences in Nepal. Member Nick Craddock talked about the science behind photographic and artistic composition and member Terry Verrinder gave insights into his photographic interests and expertise.

Royston Packer, a leading wildlife photographer, visited from west Wales to show the club his stunning images from visits to India.

As well as these enjoyable and stimulating photographic talks, members enjoyed the club's annual dinner which was held again at Cowbridge's delightful Market Place restaurant – and organised brilliantly, as always, by Nick Thornton.

Bridget Craddock, Gwynne Harries, Peter Dennis and Guy Butler-Madden were all winners in the monthly club competition. The last month also included a black and white print competition in memory of former member, Mervyn Williams. The topic was 'Locks' and Peter Dennis won with his close-up of chains, ropes and locks.

February also saw the club doing very well in the main annual photographic competition for all the clubs in Wales – so well, that Vale Photographic Club will be representing Wales in a UK-wide competition in the autumn.

For information on the club visit our website at www.vale-photographic-club.co.uk, or simply turn up to a club evening on a Friday, from September to July at 7.15pm in Ystradowen Village Hall.

NICK CRADDOCK

Welsh Secretary of State answers students' questions

ON February 16, Vale MP and Welsh Secretary of State, Alun Cairns, visited Atlantic College and met with students.

The conversation centred on the Government's approval of a third runway at Heathrow to expand UK airport capacity – a move to reinforce the British economy in the light of the impending Brexit.

Mr Cairns was invited by second year student Olive Milne, who is part of the environmental faculty, which aims to inspire and equip students to work towards a sustainable future.

She said: "I invited Mr Cairns to the college so that we would be able to have a discussion with someone directly involved with decisions regarding the planned third runway at Heathrow Airport, as this has been one of our campaign focusses this year."

Muskaan Verma, who also participated in the discussion, said: "It was a great opportunity to interact with someone who is influential in government in the country that has become a second home for me."

Mr Cairns said: "I was delighted to be asked to speak to students at Atlantic College's environmental faculty last week. The students were knowledgeable and sharp, as expected at such a prestigious school, and asked excellent questions about the expansion of Heathrow Airport and the UK Government's commitment to reduce carbon dioxide emissions."

"It is always a pleasure to visit young people who are engaged with the issues affecting this country and the world, and pleased that I could explain the UK Government's position on a number of issues to them."

YN

NEWS FROM ST HILARY WI

THE first meeting of the new year at St Hilary WI, was held on January 10 in the newly-renovated village hall.

This was a fun and games evening, which started off with a game of bingo. The game started with great enthusiasm, but it soon became apparent that most members found it less than scintillating, so it was abandoned and the ever popular crazy whist was initiated!

This was a great success and the evening ended with delicious refreshments.

The February meeting took place at 7pm on February 14 and members were entertained by a talk by Professor Christopher Williams on JM Staniforth, a World War One cartoonist.

Joseph Morewood Staniforth (1863-1921) was a Welsh editorial

cartoonist, best known for his work in the Western Mail, Evening Express and The News of the World newspapers. Staniforth has been described as '...the most important visual commentator on Welsh affairs ever to work in the country.'

Prof Williams showed an in-depth knowledge of Staniforth's life and works and was able to paint a colourful picture of political life during the First World War through the media of cartoons and caricatures.

After this fascinating talk, refreshments were served and the evening concluded with an auction, with proceeds going towards WI funds. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 14 at 7pm in the village hall, when the guest speaker will be Gwerfyl Gardner with a talk entitled 'Adventures in Quizland'.

Got a story? Then get in touch with us
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Sellout crowd awaits champ Selby at the O2 Arena this Saturday



Lee Selby will be hoping for more success this Saturday when he fights Andoni Gago.

BARRY'S Lee Selby takes on his next opponent this Saturday, as he battles Andoni Gago at the O2 Arena in London.

The IBF World Featherweight champion faces the Spaniard on the undercard of the much-anticipated David Haye vs Tony Bellew clash, but local fans will be looking a little further down the card as Selby prepares to take on a fighter who has won 16 of his 20 fights thus far, and will no doubt provide a strong test for Selby, whose title is not on the line.

Having suffered the disappointment of seeing

his dream fight in Las Vegas, against Jonathan Barros, cancelled at the last-minute after Barros failed to meet medical requirements (a cancellation that left the Selby 'devastated'), the Barry boxer will no doubt be looking forward to stepping through the ropes in London, his fifth fight at the O2 Arena, with the aim of making up for lost time.

The bout will comprise 10 three-minute rounds, with the odds on a Selby win as much as 100-1 on with some bookmakers.

Action from the O2 Arena begins at 6pm this Saturday, March 4.

PAINTING BIRD BOXES TO KEEP PARK GREEN

Primary school pupils have been painting bird boxes and placing them in trees around Victoria Park – one of the Vale's many Green Flag-awarded outdoor areas.

In total, there are eight parks in the county borough that have been given that honour by Keep Wales Tidy, the mark of a quality green space. The others are Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery, Romilly Park, Alexandra Park, Barry Island Seafront, Belle Vue Park, Central Park, and Knap Gardens.

The Vale also has eight community sites that have been awarded Green Flag status – Barry Community Garden, Birchgrove Woodlands, Cowbridge Physic Garden, Cwmtalwg Local Nature Reserve, Elizabethan Orchard, Old Hall Gardens, Upper Orchard Field Wenvoe and Wenvoe Community Orchard.

With Cadoxton Primary School next to Victoria Park in Barry, pupils benefit from using the area for a number of activities. Their school sports day is held there, while the children build dens around the park and also go on nature walks.

Their latest project has seen pupils in year-2 and 3 paint a number of nesting boxes for birds. These are then attached to trees around the park, allowing children to monitor how they are used over the coming months.

Cadoxton Primary is an Eco-School, meaning



Vale of Glamorgan Council Parks and Open Spaces Officer John Greatrex (foreground) with Coun Gwyn John, Keep Wales Tidy Green Flag Coordinator Lucy Prisk, children and teaching assistants from Cadoxton Primary School.

it follows an international programme run in Wales by Keep Wales Tidy and funded by the Welsh Government. The programme helps pupils learn about sustainable living and global citizenship while giving them the information and support they need to make changes that will benefit their school, local environment and wider community.

These include reducing waste and energy consumption, using environmentally-friendly transport, living healthily and being aware of litter issues.

Coun Gwyn John, cabinet member for visible, leisure and regulatory services, said: "Here in the Vale of Glamorgan, we have worked hard to create top-quality green areas

for people to enjoy and are proud that this effort has resulted in so many spaces around the County being given Green Flag status.

"It's great to see the children of Cadoxton Primary School enjoying Victoria Park. Having such a wonderful space on their doorstep offers a fantastic opportunity to learn about local wildlife.

This bird-nesting project should further fuel that interest, while time in the park can also help make children aware of important environmental issues."

Keep Wales Tidy Green Flag coordinator

Lucy Prisk said:

"Victoria Park is a wonderful example of a site that has met the high standards needed to achieve the Green Flag Award.

It is well loved by the whole community and it was great to see the students from Cadoxton Primary learning about the importance of the Green Flag Award and all the wildlife living in their local park.

"By helping to paint and put up new nest boxes, the students had the opportunity to enjoy and share the outdoors with the park's smaller residents."

VALE WALKERS SEE SPRING IS IN THE AIR

WITH storm Doris having passed and left only wind behind, 12 walkers joined John at The Cross Inn in Llanblethian for the latest of Valeways walks.

They walked towards the church, but soon turned off to head into the valley to Factory Brook. Heading up the brook, after a couple of stiles they crossed over the footbridge to climb up the other side towards Singingstone. Passing through fields with plenty of lambs in them, the walkers reached a lane, which led them towards Llanmihangel.

The sides of the road were covered with snowdrops and daffodils giving a promise of spring on the way.

On reaching Llanmihangel, a coffee stop was made in the churchyard and the architecture of

Llanmihangel Place was admired. The building has been here since at least 1166.

Walking over more fields and passing more lambs, the group soon arrived at a long disused quarry. They then walked along the edge of woodland before dropping down through the woods to cross a footbridge and climb up to the hamlet of Llandough.

From here they followed the Valeways Millennium Trail to the edges of Llanblethian before walking along Factory Road, crossing the ford and then starting up the valley before retracing their steps back to The Cross Inn where, after a very enjoyable walk, refreshment was taken.

Many thanks to The Cross Inn for their hospitality and for the use of the car park.

JOHN TREBY

Valeways Walk Leader

COWBRIDGE U3A

The next Cowbridge U3A meeting will be a talk on churches by John Winton entitled 'Have I Got Pews for You?', at 2pm on Wednesday, March 8 in Cowbridge Town Hall.

Visitors welcome (there is a small fee, which includes refreshments). See www.u3asites.org.uk/cowbridge.

Free bus travel for St Athan pupils

LLANTWIT Major Comprehensive pupils from the Eglwys Brewis Estate in St Athan will receive free bus travel to school because increased factory activity means it is no longer appropriate for them to walk along the road.

The route between the two locations was recently reassessed by Vale Council staff as construction work around the Aston Martin car factory development continues. It is an issue that has promoted protests from parents' groups in the area.

Now, free transport will be provided from Monday until July 2019, at which point the road will be re-evaluated by council officers.

All parents and carers of pupils eligible have been contacted by the Vale Council's public transport team

and advised on how they may apply for this provision.

Coun Peter King, cabinet member for building maintenance, highways and transportation, said: "Following a constructive meeting with the local community in January, I asked my officers to consider all the points raised.

"As a result, we have deemed the road between the Eglwys Brewis Estate and Llantwit Major Comprehensive School unsuitable for pupils to walk down.

"Children's safety is of paramount importance to all concerned and construction works associated with the new Aston Martin car plan will lead to increased traffic along the route, including its use by heavy Goods Vehicles."

Heidi (10) has tresses cut for a good cause



HEIDI MORGANS (10), a pupil at Cadoxton Primary School in Barry, will be fundraising, with the help of family and friends, for The Little Princess Trust – by having 20 inches of her long locks cut off!

The event takes place on April 5 at Catwalk Studio, Tynewydd Road, Barry, and she hopes that her hair can be used for a wig to help another child who has lost theirs.

Memories of National Service at Men's Forum

THE chairman of Barry Men's Forum welcomed speaker Mr Haydn Burgess, whose talk was entitled 'Teenage Adventures, 1946 to 1949'.

Until 1956, all youths in the country had to do compulsory National Service, a minimum of two years in the armed forces, where they were trained for military service.

Even with thousands of soldiers being demobbed after the Second World War, teenagers were required to join one of the services or the Merchant Navy. Haydn recalled how at the age of 18 in 1946 he had been 'called up'.

Being a Cardiff lad, he was first posted to Brecon Lines, in the King's Liverpool Regiment. His early training was in the Royal Corps of Signals, where because of the confidentiality involved, he was made an NCO and then Lance Corporal: 1946/47 was the hardest winter in living memory when the snow was over four feet deep, and he

recalled how he was on guard at Catterick gatehouse, where he was hardly able to see above the snow.

He was soon to leave the cold of Britain for the heat of Africa. He arrived in Egypt, before travelling south, staying at numerous army posts and finishing almost on the equator at Mogadishu in Somalia. He recounted many episodes of army life, which gave him a love of Africa, and his sincere belief that the continent has a 'great future', so long as the leaders rise to the challenges.

The next meeting is on March 9, when the speaker will be Mr Clive Simms, whose talk is entitled 'The man who barked, and other stories'.

New members are welcome at £2 per meeting, which includes light refreshments, starts at 10.15am and finishes by noon. The Barry Men's Forum meets at the Trinity Presbyterian Church Hall every Thursday morning.

Contact the chairman Mac Tanner on 01446 743455.

PMW

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Bridgend Youth Theatre performers bring Fiddler on the Roof to the Grand Pavilion

WORDS by PHILIP IRWIN
Photos by MANDY THOMAS
 (Telephone 07541 982794)
 www.mandythomasphotography.com



ABOVE: Aisling McCormack Thomas (centre) from Cowbridge Comprehensive played Yente the matchmaker.

Another year – another top notch show by the Bridgend Youth Theatre (BYT) in the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl. This time, it was Fiddler on the Roof.

However, with the BYT, it might just as well be Groundhog Day, because each year there are new faces on stage, but the quality remains the same. BYT director Roger Burnell has put together a talented young production team, with assistant director Naomi Pearl Roberts, musical director Nathan Jones and choreographer Annie Davies, and given them an impressive pool of young talent from around the area to work with.

Added to that, *Fiddler on the Roof* is a classic show, full of good tunes, drama and humour, with an added resonance in this day and age, as the villagers who have lived for many years in Russia are forced to become refugees.

The cast put on five performances over three days (February 23-25), and I saw the final one, on Saturday night, where an appreciative audience gave the young performers a well-deserved standing ovation.

My only problem is how to review it, because the depth of talent available to the BYT meant that a number of roles were shared, with two actors appearing on alternate nights.

The main character is Tevye, the village milkman and philosopher, who has six daughters. Owen Rhys Evans played Tevye on all five shows, but his four

eldest daughters were shared between eight girls.

It would be easy to enthuse about the Saturday cast, but that seems unfair on the Friday girls. I have it on good authority that they were excellent too.

Similarly, the male roles of Motel, the young tailor who is in love with Tevye's oldest daughter, Tzeitel, and Mordcha, a prominent villager, were shared between James Evans Jones and Rob Davis. Motel gets a song, 'Miracle of Miracles', but Mordcha doesn't.

Consequently, I can report that Rob sang it very well indeed. I can't comment on James, but as last year he was Tony, the lead in *West Side Story*, I doubt if the Friday audience felt short changed.

To put it in football terms, the BYT is a bit like Chelsea at the moment. A pretty impressive 11 take the field, but even more intimidating is the talent on the bench!

Some cast members were on stage for every performance, and as Tevye and his wife Golde, Owen Rhys Evans and Rebecca Leigh were an excellent team.

Tevye has the eye-catching songs, and Owen made the most of 'If I Were a Rich Man'. I liked the light and shade in his performance. Tevye can be a bit larger than life, but Owen made him more of an everyman.

However, Owen and Rebecca really shone with their duet, 'Do You Love Me?' which they made funny, reflective and poignant all at once.

The main comedy role in *Fiddler* is Yente, the matchmaker, and this gave Aisling McCormack Thomas a chance to showcase her talents, getting plenty of

laughs as the old busybody.

It's not that long ago that I saw her playing the lead in *Annie* in Cowbridge Comprehensive's school show, so it's good to see someone put her singing talents on one side to make the show work so well.

There were strong performances throughout. Last year, Lewis Scott had the showy role of Bernardo, the leader of the Sharks, in *West Side Story*, but here he got plenty of laughs as Lazar Wolf, the elderly, drunken butcher who has set his sights on Tzeitel – before true love intervenes.

Iwan Bond, playing Perchik, the idealistic revolutionary who is in love with Hodel, Tevye's second oldest daughter, was also a strong performer.

Again, in 'The Dream', where Tevye conjures up a dream to persuade Golde to approve of Tzeitel's young suitor, there were excellent ghostly cameos from Lili Smith and Essyla Miller.

Essentially, *Fiddler on the Roof* is an ensemble piece, and what was so enjoyable about this production was how much each performer gave on stage, whether in a featured role or as part of the chorus.

In the cast list below, take note of the eight girls who shared the roles of Tevye's four daughters. On their alternate nights, they were in the chorus, making sure that numbers such as 'Sunrise, Sunset' worked as well as they could.

They were all part of the team, keeping the BYT where it should be – right at the top when it comes to entertainment in Bridgend county



A village celebration during happier times.



ABOVE: The Russians tell the villagers they must leave.

borough.

To drag in another football analogy, things have gone pear-shaped at Leicester City this year. Great success last year but manager Claudio Ranieri couldn't hold some players' egos in check – it is said.

They are too big for their boots and aren't working as hard for the team as last year – it is also said.

Not a problem with the BYT. Good reviews last year count for nothing if you don't contribute this year.

It all goes to make the annual BYT show a treat. Put it in your diary for next year. Don't wait to see if you know the show. Just go along and be thrilled.

CAST:

TEVYE - Owen Rhys Evans; **GOLDE** - Rebecca Leigh; **TZEITEL** - Maddie Dawson/Phoebe Lewis; **HODEL** - Jasmine Jones/Olivia Hopper; **CHAVA** - Elin Morris/Lucy Vinen; **SHPRINTZE** - Megan Morris/Mali Thomas; **BIELKE** - Iman Rossaye Evans; **REBA** - Taya Beechey; **YENTE** - Aisling McCormack Thomas; **MOTEL** - James Evans Jones / Rob Davis; **PERCHIK** - Iwan Bond; **LAZAR WOLF** - Lewis Scott; **MORDCHA** - Rob Davis/James Evans Jones; **RABBI** - Matthew Jones / Evan Laidler; **MENDEL** - Jaydon Jones / Dylan Thomas; **AVRAM** - George Neeson; **GRANDMA TZEITEL**

- Lili Smith; **NACHUM** - Christian Moseley; **FRUMA SARAH** - Layla Miller; **SHAINDEL** - Katie Shears; **CONSTABLE** - Matthew Lee; **FYEDKA** - Jack Williams/ Huw Evans; **IEANOV** - Gethin Williams; **ALEXI** - Evan Laidler/Matthew Jones; **JOSEF** - Jaydon Jones/Dylan Thomas; **ISSAC** - Jake Thomas; **MOSES** - Jude Blake; **LEVI** - Patrick O'Neill; **DANIEL** - Benji Jones; **BENJAMIN** - Billy Thomas; **LUC** - Will Foscett.

CHORUS

Gemma Dunlop, Lucy Beale, Abbi Audsley, Carys Morgan, Caitlyn Huckridge, Daisy Brown, Aled Davies, Catrin Weeks Georgina Anderson, Hannah Strong, Holly Sinclair, India Clatworthy, Jenny Tanner, Jenny Passingham, Molly Corthine, Lowri Rees Owen, Olivia Pownall, Dafydd Rees, Evan Davies, Joel McClean Howell, Milly Stables, Nathan Powell, Orla Danahar, Rhys Jones, Lucia Brown, Elin Jarmin, Megan Prance, Jorja Jenkins, Alea Beechey, Daniel Huckridge, Jack Davies Ed Neeson, Rhys Keagle, Jamie Wyatt Libby Purdue, Matt Neeson, Sienna Jones, Poppy Shears, Harry Howells, Tomos McQueen, Katie Jeanette, Cerys Jones Lily Barrett, Jack Richards, Isabelle Evans Lili - Perl Arnold, Grace Clear,

Rachel Clear, **DANCERS**

Fantasy Feet Dance Company Cordelia Wickenden, Kaisha Jones, Sarah Hames, Caitlin Morris Giles, Naomi Dorricott, Emily Thomas

PRODUCTION

Director Roger Burnell

Musical Director Nathan Jones

Assistant Director Naomi Pearl Roberts

Choreographers: Annie Davies, Phillipa Harries of Fantasy Feet Dance Company.

Set Design: Roger Burnell, Ellis Watts, Ffion Thomas.

Set Construction: Jon Owen, Mario Williams.

Deputy Stage Manager Shelley Rees Owen, Becky Davies.

Lighting: Richard Davies.

Sound: David Spencer, William Lewis.

Assistant Stage Managers Oliver Millen, Sam Stables, Emma Jenkins.

Hair and Makeup Gabrielle Goldthorpe, Samantha Buck, Paige Rosser.

ORCHESTRA:

Flute: Cameron Cullen; Clarinet: Cion Evans; Trumpet: Corey Morris; Keyboard: Sioned Evans;

Trombone: Daf Thomas; Percussion: Phil Hughes; Cite: Max Ireland; Guitar: Luke Adams; Violin: Annie Pullar; Cello: Sophie Nash; Bass: Craig Walker.



Owen Rhys Evans as Tevye and (below) with Rebecca Leigh as Golde. (Photos taken in rehearsal, so Owen is not yet in full make-up – ie no beard!)



Inspiring people make their mark in the Vale

IAM constantly reminded how fortunate I am to serve the Vale of Glamorgan as your Assembly Member, when I meet inspiring people who are making their mark in their communities – in their work and in their professions.

Recounting just a few of these examples to us all, I will start with the community paramedic I met at Cowbridge ambulance station, Huw Evans, who is working in the new Western Vale community paramedic pilot funded by the Welsh Government's Intermediate Care Fund.

Huw, with his colleague Anita Burch, works alongside GPs in the Western Vale cluster – Eryl surgery in Llantwit Major and the GP surgeries in Cowbridge.

He has a fully

equipped rapid response vehicle and GPs can now call the community paramedic to make home visits if they think this would be clinically suitable. I understand this service is already making a difference and helping people who need a swift and professional response to their health needs.

Secondly, I was pleased to join the Deputy Leader of the Vale Council, Coun Lis Burnett, in the launch of the Practical Autism Toolkit Book at Ysgol y Deri.

Inspiring educational professionals described how they have developed this digital toolkit in collaboration with over 700 pupils with autism as well as parents, carers and other key professionals in this field.

The eBook includes photos, audio and video clips helping to show the way developing autism-friendly environments can make

ASSEMBLY NOTES



by VALE AM JANE HUTT
(Leader of the House)

a real difference to learning. The Welsh Government supported this project through the Autism Strategy Fund.

The Practical Autism Toolkit eBook can be downloaded from the Ysgol y Deri website www.yyd.org.uk/ for schools, pupils, parents and professionals for young people with autism.

I also want to congratulate the team of volunteers involved in the St Athan community library who are opening up the library for all sorts of new opportunities with the support of the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

I met some of the volunteers on a recent visit to wish them well for the future in their newly constituted

charity, and it was great to see children and adults using the computers and many library users coming in for books.

During half-term a craft event for children was organised and the WI and St Athan Primary are also very involved in the library.

I know that this sort of community initiative is being supported throughout the Vale with volunteers coming forward to play their part.

So this is good news for the Vale of Glamorgan as people, communities and professionals come forward to make their mark.

Finally, I would like to thank the inspiring Barry Tenovus Choir, who entertained us at the High Street Christmas Market and the Castleland Community Centre concert in September last year.

This week, they were organising a St David's Day concert led by their musical director Jo Fowler, at St Mary's Church from 7pm, supported by Barry Male Voice Choir, local band Mad Tom's Crowd and soloist Kelly Virgill. All in aid of Tenovus.

I hope you have had a Happy St David's Day!

Women's rights champion joins prestigious Welsh list

A VALE woman who campaigned for women's rights in Wales and the United Nations, has been included in the Dictionary of Welsh Biography, the national database that contains more than 5,000 concise biographies of Welsh people who have made a significant contribution to national life, whether in Wales or more widely.

Audrey Jones of Dinas Powys, who died in 2014 aged 84, took part in the 1995 United Nations World Conference for Women in Beijing, attending preparatory meetings in European cities and drafting reports. Beijing proved a watershed in mainstreaming gender equality, establishing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

A founder member of Wales Assembly of Women (WAW), she regularly represented WAW at annual New York sessions to review progress on Beijing until a couple of years before her death, including the major conferences Beijing+5 (2000) and Beijing+10 (2005). WAW became accredited to the UN Economic and Social Council in 2000, when Audrey hand-delivered the application in New York.

Audrey first made her mark as a teacher. For 30 years she taught at St Cyres Comprehensive School, Penarth, gaining a reputation as an uncompromising advocate of girls' education and rising to deputy head, a distinction gained by few women in 1980's

comprehensives. Committed to challenging sexism in education, she encouraged girls to study science and maths.

Audrey was interviewed for the British Library archive 'Sisterhood and After: The Women's Liberation Oral History Project' that documented memories of activists at the forefront of the fight for political and social equality in the 1970s and '80s.

She was a driving force in the Women's Forum of the Vale of Glamorgan Labour Party.

Determined the forum should survive when all-women meetings were being questioned in Labour Party circles, she argued women needed as many platforms as possible to promote equality.

She was a founder member of Women's Archive of Wales, the body committed to raising the profile of women in Welsh history. She linked WAW with the Women's Arts Association, and, deeply interested in art though not an artist herself, became chair for several years.

Audrey came to live in Wales in the 1950s when her late husband Hugh Jones took over transport logistics for international chemical company Dow Corning and the family settled in the Vale village of Dinas Powys.

As devolution loomed, Audrey was an ardent campaigner in the powerful movement of women's groups that combined to persuade the new National Assembly to commit to equal opportunity and she took to the streets in the drive to get the Labour Party to adopt constituency twinning to ensure gender equality in Labour representation in the first

Assembly.

Audrey was taken ill when returning from a London meeting preparing for an international conference of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and died later that year.

Professor Jackie Jones, chair of WAW, said: 'Audrey was a courageous and committed campaigner and a long-term contributor to UN debates on women's rights. In those early days, she was a real pioneer and travelled the world to champion the cause of women. She made a difference. Being included in the DWB is a fitting tribute to all she achieved.'

The entry on Audrey for the Dictionary of Welsh Biography was written by Dr Jean Silvan Evans of Peterston-super-Ely, who said: 'Audrey spent time and energy fighting for the rights of women not only in Wales but across the world. It was a privilege to be able to record her life and work for this important national database, where it will continue to inspire other women.'

Last year WAW established the Audrey Jones Memorial Awards for Research by Women in her honour. This year's awards will be presented at WAW's annual conference on Saturday, March 11, 10am-3.30pm, which takes the theme 'BREXIT really is a Women's Issue!'

Speakers will include Baroness Eluned Morgan and Julie Morgan AM. It will be held at Cardiff University School of Social Sciences, Glamorgan Building, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3WT. Costs: £12 including lunch.

JEAN SILVAN EVANS

Women's World Day of Prayer
THE theme for this year's service is 'Am I being unfair to you?' and it will be held in St Cadoc's Roman Catholic Church, Townmill Road, Cowbridge on Friday, March 3 at 1.30pm.

"Typhoon Haryan hit the Philippine Islands and the people are still very much in need of our prayers and support," said a spokesperson. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

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MPs allowed to use Welsh language in some debates

NEWS that MPs are to be allowed to speak Welsh in some UK parliamentary debates, has been welcomed by Vale MP

Alun Cairns

Ministers are to bring forward changes in Parliament enabling MPs to use their language when the Welsh Grand Committee meets in

Westminster.

Currently, MPs can only speak in the Welsh language at meetings of the Welsh Affairs select committee.

Mr Cairns, who is also Welsh Secretary, said: "I am delighted that MPs will be able to participate in the Welsh Grand Committee through the medium of Welsh for the first time in Westminster."

"It is vitally important that the people of Wales are able to hear debates in both languages."

The UK Government had previously rejected calls to overturn rules prohibiting members from speaking Welsh.

Ministers are proposing the change in a motion to be tabled during Government time in the Commons. The move does not change the rules as they apply to general House of Commons debates.

The Government says the cost of translation services using interpreters and headsets will be 'absorbed within Parliament's existing budgets'.

Echo is Dogs Trust's 100th rehomed dog!

TAILS are wagging at Dogs Trust Bridgend as the rehoming centre celebrates rehoming its 100th hound since the New Year.

Taking the accolade is Echo, a two-year-old spaniel cross, who has been adopted by Therese and Peter Evans after they fell in love with her liveliness and sweet-nature. She was handed in due to her owners' work commitments, which meant they could no longer look after her.

Therese said: "We saw Echo on the website and we immediately fell in love with her! We've owned dogs, including spaniel crossbreeds, before and now we are both retired we are finally able to give a new dog all of the attention they need – plus it's a good excuse to get out of

the house and go on some lovely long walks!

"Echo is the perfect match for us. She's got a wonderful, friendly personality as well as lots of energy so she'll definitely keep us on our toes. We're really looking forward to having lots of fun together and giving her the great life she deserves."

The rehoming centre in Pen-y-Fai can care for around 100 dogs at any one time and last year it rehomed more than 700 dogs.

Rebecca Baker, Dogs Trust Bridgend rehoming centre assistant manager said: "It has certainly been a busy start to the year but it's fantastic that so

many people, like Therese and Peter, want to give a dog a second chance.

"In the last few weeks, we've rehomed dogs of all shapes and sizes, from collies to crossbreeds, and to know that they've all headed off to their loving forever homes is wonderful."

"Sadly, dogs arrive every week for a variety of reasons but thanks to the hundreds of people that come through our doors every month, we are able to find them their ideal home."

If you think you could offer a dog a permanent home, call 0300 303 0292 or, to find out more, visit www.dogs-trust.org.uk.



Echo has set tails wagging!

'Have your say' call at local elections

LOCAL elections are earmarked for Thursday, May 4, and the Vale Council is urging residents to get ready to have their say.

A spokesperson stated: "By voting, you will be deciding who represents you and your neighbours in the Vale, and who makes decisions on the provision of local services, such as education services, leisure and recreation facilities, as well as roads and footpaths."

"There are a few ways you can vote, but, it is important that you register first. The deadline to register to vote is Thursday, April 13. Residents can apply to register to vote at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote. To do so is easy: all you will need is your National Insurance number, date of birth and address."

You can vote in these elections if you have registered to vote in the UK, and will be 18 or over on May 4. To download an application form for a postal or proxy vote, visit www.yourvotematters.co.uk or call 0800 3 280 280.

VALE NFU LADIES' TALK

AN informative talk on the history of the Glamorgan Fox Hounds by the Master, Mr J Thomas, was enjoyed by all and a lively discussion followed.

Helena Davies gave the vote of thanks and Ann Anthony won the raffle. Some £300 is to be sent to the kidney research at the University Hospital Wales, our charity donation.

The next meeting is on March 21 at 7.30pm in Penllyn village hall, with John Sheen.

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tenovuscancercare.org.uk/freewills

GVS funding applications

GLAMORGAN Voluntary Services (GVS) has arranged a day of pre-booked appointments in collaboration with the Big Lottery Fund (BLF) for its Awards for All Wales (A4AW) and People and Places (P&P) programmes.

A4AW awards grants are between £500 and £5,000 and P&P grants are between £5,001 and £1m. Voluntary and community groups serving the Vale of Glamorgan will be able to apply for a half-hour A4AW or 45-minute P&P appointment with a BLF advisor to discuss the eligibility of a potential application.

Groups that wish to apply must be available

anytime between 10am and 5pm on Thursday, March 16.

To apply for an appointment, forward an outline application proposal (one side of A4 maximum), preferably by e-mail, to dave@gvs.wales or alternatively it can be posted to GVS, Barry Community Enterprise Centre, Skomer Road, Barry (CF62 9DA). Applications must be received by Wednesday, March 8. Please state whether your project is for A4AW or P&P funding.

Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS) tel: 01446 741706, e-mail: enquiries@gvs.wales, or www.gvs.wales.

Ben aiming to be INVNCBL for RNLI

LOCAL lifeboat crew member and education volunteer, Ben Philips, is participating in the gruelling 10k obstacle INVNCBL race series – to raise money for the lifesaving organisation.

Stationed at RNLI Barry Docks, he will travel hay bales, scale walls and crawl through mud on Saturday, March 4 in Margam Park, near Bridgend.

Ben will be running as part of 'The Rum Runners' team with his friends Sammi Munson and Philippe Moracchini.

The team are hoping to reach their target and raise £200 with donations.

Ben is no stranger to challenges as he raised nearly £1,000 for the RNLI with a historical 'Norman soldier' haircut in October last year.

An RNLI education volunteer, Ben delivers vital sea safety messages to school children and other young people. He is also a volunteer



Lifeboat crew member and education volunteer, Ben 'Sven' Philips, in full RNLI kit and equipment. Photo by Becci Townsend.

lifeboat crew member at Barry Dock RNLI and his family have a long history of service with the station. His great-grandfather and his brother were both crewmen and his dad is a second coxswain.

Ben said: "I am always finding new ways and challenges to raise money for an organisation close to my heart. This is my biggest challenge yet."

"We are running this event because, as a group who enjoy water sports and being at sea, the RNLI plays an extremely meaningful part in

ensuring our safety at sea.

"As a crew member and volunteer, I see first-hand the difference raising money can make for both the crew and the local community to ensure people are safe and return home."

The RNLI needs around £460,000 per day and relies almost entirely upon donations from members of the public in raising money for the charity's 237 life stations and 350-boat fleet, provide continuous training and modern safety equipment for crew members, 'from boots to boats'.

The average equipment cost to ensure the safety of individual lifeboat crew members is around £2,500. This includes waterproof clothing, lifejackets, thermal suits and safety helmets.

You can support Ben and the rest of 'The Rum Runners' team by donating on their Just Giving page: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Sven-RNLI. More information can be found on the RNLI website, www.rnli.org.

Cardiff Airport wings in for Alzheimer's Society Cymru

STAFF at Cardiff Airport have presented Alzheimer's Society Cymru with a donation of £1,040, the total amount raised following a recent raffle collection.

This fundraising activity is just one of the ways Cardiff Airport is now working with the charity to raise awareness of dementia. Staff will continue to develop a relationship with Alzheimer's Society Cymru and will undergo additional awareness training to become Dementia Friends; to enhance the customer service experience in ways that will help passengers with dementia and their carers.

Cardiff Airport's aim is to become one of the few UK airports to be recognised as a 'Dementia Friendly' airport with the support of the charity, whose Dementia Friends campaign is already recognised across Wales.

Cheryl George, community fundraiser for Alzheimer's Society Cymru in south east Wales, visited Cardiff Airport to collect the donation, and said: "We are so very thankful to the team at Cardiff Airport for choosing to support Alzheimer's Society Cymru through their annual raffle."

"The £1,040 raised is gratefully received. This money will go directly to help fund research, provide support and campaign for a better quality of life for people with dementia."

"The Airport's charity committee supports so many charities and good causes throughout the years and it is great that dementia is high on the Airport's agenda. We are really looking forward to developing our relationship further and this will include running Dementia Friends sessions with staff very soon and helping the airport become Dementia Friendly."



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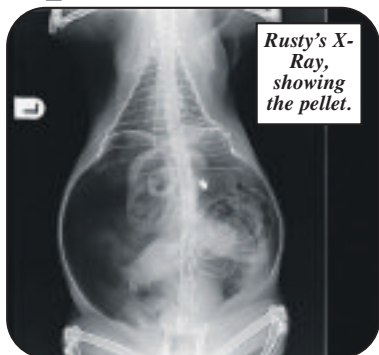
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Woman 'heartbroken' after pet cat is killed by airgun



Rusty's X-Ray, showing the pellet.

AN appeal for information has been launched after a Barry cat died on a veterinarian's recovery table after being shot by an air rifle.

The cat, named Rusty, had the pellet removed by operation on February 24.

An x-ray scan revealed the pellet in the cat's back, but sadly, Rusty did not make it through the recovery stages following surgery.

An RSPCA Cymru spokesman said: "The cat started to appear unwell approximately two weeks earlier, but had no obvious wounds on her body, so it was not apparent she had been the victim of a shooting.

"Rusty was also being treated for a chest infection. However, it is now believed this is when the shooting took place."

RSPCA Cymru is urging anyone with information potentially related to the incident to contact the charity's inspectorate appeal line. The incident is

understood to have taken place about a fortnight earlier, on Brookfield Avenue, where the cat lived.

Gemma Black, RSPCA inspector, said: "Our thoughts are with Rusty's owner at this very difficult time for them."

"The cat sadly didn't recover from the operation on February 24. This sad and shocking incident is the latest example of the suffering to pets that one person with an air weapon can cause."

"We urge anyone with any relevant information to come forward, and contact the RSPCA's inspectorate appeal line on 0300 123 8018."

Rusty's owner Kathryn Price said: "We are heartbroken to lose Rusty, who was one of our three much-loved cats."

"She was an older cat, who didn't go far – so we fear the shooting took place while she was in our back garden."

Should you wish to support the RSPCA, you can give £3 by texting LOVE to 87023 (text costs £3 + one standard network rate message).

GOT A STORY? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgangem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

BRIDGEND FORD STAFF ARE 'MOVING CLOSER TO STRIKE ACTION' – SAYS UNION LEADER

AT the time of going to press yesterday (Wednesday), a confused picture had emerged regarding the future of Bridgend Ford, which makes 250,000 engines a year for Jaguar-Land Rover (JLR), and twice that number for its own use.

The plant, which opened in 1980, employs some 1,900 people and specialises in producing petrol engines. It supports around 10,000 further supply-chain jobs in south Wales and beyond.

The GEM understands that top officials from Ford UK and Unite union were planning to be present at the Bridgend plant yesterday.

Unite claimed on February 28 that more than 1,100 jobs were at risk, although just two years ago, Ford of Europe made the recommendation to Ford HQ in Detroit to build the new 'Dragon' petrol engines at Bridgend.

The investment is being backed with an additional investment grant by the Welsh Government.

The union is concerned because Ford has not issued any five-year outlook for the plant – something that it says is in place for other plants.

Len McCluskey, leader of Unite, called on Ford to "end the agony of its Welsh workforce and commit at last to the Bridgend engine plant".

Mr McCluskey said that failure to provide commitments on new investment will see the workforce move one step closer to strike action in defence of their jobs.

In early 2015, it was announced that production of the JLR engines would move to its new plant in Wolverhampton, cutting by a third the number of units produced in Bridgend.

First Minister of Wales, and Assembly Member for Bridgend, Carwyn Jones AM, is in the US on a trade mission.

In a statement issued on Twitter, he said: "These reports are clearly deeply concerning, and we are actively seeking urgent assurances from Ford, both in the UK and US, about their future plans."

He added that there is "dialogue" – through trades unions – with the workforce, members of which are "being offered every assistance".

However, Welsh Conservative AM and Shadow

Economy Secretary Russell George said yesterday that the First Minister "must travel to Detroit [Ford HQ] to seek assurances from Ford executives over the security of its Bridgend plant's long-term future".

Mr George continued: "This situation has been rumbling on since June now, and right in the backyard of the First Minister's constituency," he said.

"This is very worrying news for workers and their families, who for many months now have been grappling with an increasingly uncertain future."

Bridgend MP Madeleine Moon said that she had spoken to Ford officials on Tuesday [February 28] and claimed there had been no mention of job losses, adding that the latest development "has completely blindsided me".

She continued: "We are living in uncertain times. We know for some time that that production of the Sigma engine, exported to the US, China and Europe is coming to an end. The Jaguar Land Rover engine contract is also coming to an end."

"Expectations about the number of new Dragon engines for export to Europe has declined. So there is a need to attract new work to the Bridgend plant."

"It is important that management, unions and the workforce work together to maintain the productivity and viability of the Bridgend plant. I along with my fellow local MPs will continue to work to seek tariff free access to European markets so that new work can be attracted to the Bridgend plant."

Secretary of State for Wales and Vale MP Alun Cairns told The GEM: "I met with Ford officials yesterday [February 28] and discussed various issues at the plant, including the natural life cycle of engines made there and ongoing plans for modernisation."

"As Secretary of State I, will continue to positively engage with Ford at Bridgend."

The GEM will continue to monitor this changing story.

Are you affected by the suspected job cuts, either at Bridgend Ford or in the supply chain?

Contact, in strictest confidence, The GEM on 01446 774484 or by email to editorial@glamorgangem.co.uk.

Barnardo's event

BARRY Barnardo's fundraising committee have arranged an afternoon of entertainment and refreshments entitled 'A Touch of Irish'.

The afternoon will include entertainment by local artists and groups with refreshments in the Church Hall of All Saints Church, Park Road, Barry, at 2pm on Saturday, March 25. Tickets (£7.50) are available from Nans Binding on 01446 734083. All welcome.

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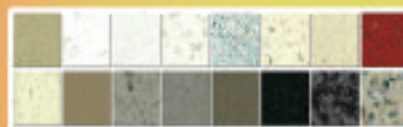
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Samaritans reach out and say – 'we are here to listen'

SAMARITANS branches across Wales were at their local train stations for St David's Day to raise awareness of their service.

While many people are aware of Samaritans' national emotional support service, Samaritans Cymru used the Welsh Saint's day to increase awareness of its Welsh language free-to-call number.

Samaritans also want people across Wales to know that they can get in touch about anything that's troubling them, no matter how large or small the issue.

Common reasons people contact Samaritans are relationship and family problems, bereavement, financial worries, job, college or study-related stress, loneliness and isolation, depression, painful and/or disabling physical illness, alcohol and/or drug problems and thoughts of suicide.

Welsh rugby referee, Nigel Owens, MBE, a supporter of Samaritans, said: "I'm proud to be supporting Samaritans Cymru for St David's Day. It's really important that we promote their free Welsh language number for

Welsh speakers. Samaritans are there for those who are struggling to cope and that includes communities right across Wales."

Branches in Wales involved in the Wales-wide event included Cardiff, Swansea and Bridgend. Geraint Morgan, community relations manager for Arriva Trains Wales, said: "The rail industry cares about the wellbeing and safety of its customers and staff and we are pleased to be supporting Samaritans as they promote their Welsh and English language helplines and the valuable support provided by their volunteers."

Samaritans is available round the clock, every single day of the year, to listen and offer confidential support.

Call 116 123 (this number is free and will not show up on your phone bill) or call the Welsh language line on 0808 164 0123 (also free, and open from 7pm – 11pm, seven days a week). You can also email jo@samaritans.org, or visit www.samaritans.org to find details of your nearest branch in Wales.

Work by women scholars in Wales wins top awards

WORK by two postgraduate researchers at Cardiff University is being recognised in annual research awards presented in memory of a Welsh woman who campaigned for women's rights across the world.

The Audrey Jones Memorial Awards for Research by Women – now in their second year – will be presented at the Wales Assembly of Women annual conference in Cardiff in March.

Audrey Jones, who represented Wales on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and contributed to UN consultations and debates on women's rights across the world, died in 2015 aged 84. Up until she retired in 1990 she was deputy head of St Cyres Comprehensive School in Penarth, where she had taught since 1960.

Co-ordinator of the Audrey Jones Memorial Awards Dr Jane Salisburysaid: "We were delighted with the quality of entries we received this year. Audrey always felt too many research findings remained hidden away from public view. She would be thrilled to know a new platform for female scholars had been established in her name."

The theme for the annual Wales Assembly of Women conference is: 'Brexite Really is a Women's Issue!' The morning session will hear from Baroness Eluned Morgan AM and Julie Morgan AM; both AMs are members of National Assembly committees looking at EU issues. The role of the EU in gender equality will be tackled by Cardiff University academic Dr Rachel Minto.

The 2017 Audrey Jones Memorial

Awards will be presented in the afternoon:

Welsh Women's attitudes towards a different form of cervical screening: human papilloma virus (HPV) self-sampling: Dr Denitza Williams, division of population medicine, College of Biomedical & Life Sciences, School of Medicine, Cardiff University.

E cigarettes – a new route into tobacco use? Implications for girls in Wales: Elen de Lacey, Decipher Research Centre (Development & Evaluation of Complex Interventions for Public Health Improvement), Cardiff University.

The Wales Assembly of Women conference is being held on Saturday, March 11 at Cardiff University, School of Social Sciences, Glamorgan Building, from 10am until 3.30pm. The conference costs £12 to include lunch and refreshments. For booking form and further information email: info@walesassemblyofwomen.co.uk

The Wales Assembly of Women is an independent organisation for women in Wales, NGO accredited to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Membership is open to all women in Wales and to women living elsewhere who have connections with Wales. It is a campaigning organisation for women's rights and receives no public money. It is funded by the membership and charity grants.

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Fostering Information Day at Cats Protection Bridgend Adoption Centre 18 March 2017 11am-1pm.

An information day for anyone interested in becoming a volunteer fosterer for mums with their kittens or hand rearing orphaned kittens.

Requirements for fostering within your home are:

- a spare room easy to clean and away from owned pets
- owned dogs and cats to be fully vaccinated and neutered
- time to care for and socialise the cats/kittens
- transport to and from centre and to vets if needed
- foster home visit required and fostering agreement to be signed

If you are interested, please come along on the day or if you require more information then contact the centre on **01656 724 396** or email bridgend@cats.org.uk



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Fantastic February for Motion Control



Lacey Mae and her parents.

THIS month, working in partnership with the Vale Council, Motion Control Dance has been delivering sessions for the 'Girls on the Move' campaign, along with the 5x60 after-school sessions in Bryn Hafren and St Richard Gwyn.

They have also been working with the years 5 and 6 dance club in Romilly Primary School.

Dancers also took part in a sponsored event that raised £1,212 for Lacey Mae, a five-year-old who has a brain tumour, and as a result has lost her sight, and suffered a stroke, a spokesperson reports.

The fundraising event saw dancers undertake a sponsored 'mannequin challenge' and danceathon for two hours alongside Ian Bishop, who

punched a bag 22,500 times over five hours! Thank you to everyone who supported this event and helped Lacey Mae and her family.

Well done to dancers from Local Motion dance company and Juvenile for reaching the semi finals of The Welsh Factor. Both groups performed amazingly on the night but unfortunately the contest ended there at Caerphilly – a great experience though for everyone involved.

Congratulations to all our dancers of the month for their passion and progression in their dance sessions.

This month, tutors chose Hannah Brown, Katie Williams, Rhosyn Boyce, Liam Mallam, Opal Knight and Evan Dyer for the awards.

Check out our new website for all our services and opportunities in community dance in the Vale at www.motioncontroldance.com.

Success for ballet school's pupils at Academy exams

STUDENTS from the Nicola Peros Ballet School are celebrating their success in the Royal Academy of Dance examination session that took place in November 2016.

All 32 students passed with high Merit or Distinction grades, which is an amazing achievement and the Pre-Primary in Dance students all achieved their class award.

Nicola Peros Ballet holds classes in St Nicholas Hall, Barry and in Cowbridge Road, Cardiff, and has an outstanding reputation for turning out classical dancers.

A number of students have gone on to take up vocational school places at The Royal Ballet School, Elmhurst Ballet School, Hammond School Chester and Trinity Laban Conservatoire, London.

Several students are on associate programmes with The Royal Ballet and Ballet Cymru and the school was featured on S4c's *Heno* this week.

School principal Nicola Peros was also asked recently to judge the University of Cardiff dance



competition, which is for teams drawn from universities across the UK who compete in a number of different dance genres including ballet, jazz, hip hop, contemporary and tap.

Nicola Peros Ballet students were successful in the following grades:

Grade 1 (passed with Merit): Alana Fajeyisan, Matilda Davidson Talbot, Ophelia Forbes and Tanya Luck Appleton Janhom.

Grade 2 (passed with Merit): Caitlin Hobbs, Grace Rose Long, Katie Maria Alsop, and

T'Leia Renwick-Reffel. Grade 3 (passed with Merit): Alyssa Fofana, Eleanor Smalley, Elizabeth Hope Angove and Mia Thompson; passed with Distinction – Ellie Clark and Lana Spender.

Grade 4 (passed with Merit): Lia Cavaliere, Stefanie Maurer, Maisie Rose Peter; passed with Distinction – Louise Emily Bagnall.

Grade 5 (passed with Merit): Danielle Emms, Leah Davies; passed with Distinction – Amber Hamling and Bridget Peake.

Grade 6 (passed with Merit): Megan Ene Lovering and Tayla Gerrish; passed with Distinction – Caitlin Eve Coles and Rhiannon Staples.

Pre-Primary in Dance (class award): Amelia Williams-Scott, Benjamin Noah French, Eva Lily Pitt, Evlyn Thomas, Lily Trigg and Phoebe Mia Jones.

For further information on ballet classes visit www.nicolaperosballet.com or info@nicolaperosballet.com or call 07850 741136.



SINGLE APPLICATION FORM

Making a stressful process easy...

4 ESSENTIAL TIPS TO SORTING OUT YOUR 2017 SAF

by RACHEL SAUNDERS

FOR farmers, it's that time of year again when the annual Single Application Form needs to be submitted. You've probably got sheep lambing and cows calving, and the last thing you have time for right now is yet more paperwork to complete.

Rachel Saunders, County Executive Officer of the Farmers' Union of Wales for Glamorgan, has some useful tips to help you with the process:

*You can start completing your form from the 6th of March but the deadline to submit is 15th of May. Even being a day late will incur a penalty on your payment. Get it done early!

*The forms can only be completed online. Make sure your computer and internet speed is able to cope with this technical form. You might like to print a copy too? How's that ink level looking?

*The form is altered every year, so make sure you've read the rules and guidelines. It's usually quite hefty, but very important you know about all the requirements and rules that might affect you.

*Has there been any changes to your business over the past year or will there be imminently? Have you bought/rented more or less land? Are you part of any agricultural environmental schemes? Do you have your stocking figures? What about checking the latest mapping measurements? These will all need to be notified on the form.

Everyone in the farming community knows that it's important to get the SAF submission right, and the FUW offers professional support in all their offices across Wales to help you with the process. Their extremely experienced and trained staff have had the latest Welsh Government training in order to assist all types of farms with the forms and process. What's more, this support is offered free as part and parcel of the comprehensive membership package.

Get in touch with your local FUW office in Cowbridge and speak to Rachel Saunders on 01446 774838 to book an appointment today to join and get that vital paperwork sorted. Then you can get back out on the farmyard quickly, doing what you're meant to be doing – farming!



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Rachel Saunders
glamorgan@fuw.org.uk

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Dante is full of energy!

DOG of The Week at Dogs Trust is Dante, our beautiful 18-month-old collie.

Dante is full of energy but does have a sensitive side, and can get a bit mouthy when worried so will need correct handling.

Dante mixes well with other dogs in open spaces and would enjoy meeting his doggy friends. Dante's forever home needs to be with experienced collie owners who live in a quiet location, as he gets anxious around traffic.

If you are interested in Dante and are able to commit to continued training and visits to the centre to get to know Dante, call us on 01656 725219 or visit our website. **RC**



Student aims to prove she is Career Ready

CARDIFF and Vale College student Danielle is a career-ready winner, and has been recognised as one of the top business students in the country.

Danielle, a 19-year-old Level 3 Extended Diploma in Business student from Barry has won the Sir Winfried Bischoff regional award for Wales, the west and Midlands. She will travel to London later this month, to give a presentation and interview to a judging panel that will determine the UK-wide winner of the award for Career Ready students.

Tracy Bird, CAVC's Career Ready programme co-ordinator, said: "We are all so proud of Danielle – she's done



Danielle Halford at CAVC's campus.

brilliantly and really deserves this award. The team here at Cardiff and Vale College are all rooting for her as Danielle stands an extremely good chance of being the UK-wide Career Ready Student of the Year."

CAVC is a committed member of the Career Ready programme as part of its drive to ensure students are employable and able to add instant value to any workplace.

Career Ready is a national charity that links with schools and colleges to prepare learners for the world of work. Alongside their academic studies, students benefit from a two-year programme of regular mentoring, workplace visits, masterclasses and internships.

During the programme Danielle had an internship with the bank Santander and impressed senior staff there with her presentation skills. One even asked that she leave him a copy of

PowerPoint presentation she had prepared as it was the best that he had ever seen and he wanted to keep it as a template. A Welsh speaker, Danielle also gave the bilingual opening address at the college's Career Ready graduation ceremony last year.

"I was completely surprised to win this award, to be honest," Danielle said. "It was so nice to get the opportunity – I never expected that my name would be put forward so it's just amazing."

"I'm really excited to be going to London; it will be yet another opportunity to meet new people and have new experiences. I'm very excited and happy to be going."

"Career Ready has been completely life changing for me. I would never have expected to have the goals I have now compared to the ones I had before I started on the programme – they are so much more ambitious."

"I've applied to go to university to do a degree in business management and law, which is something that would never have crossed my mind before I started the Career Ready programme. It's completely changed my career path, and has been even better than I expected."

'Don't hamper us!' is the message from Welsh dairy farmers

GLAMORGAN farmer Abi Reader took to the NFU conference stage to add produce to a specially-created hamper to be sent to Liam Fox MP, the International Trade Secretary.

Abi, who farms in Wenvoe, represented Welsh dairy producers at the 2017 NFU conference in the ICC Birmingham, by placing cheese in the hamper filled to the brim with British food and drink. She was joined by 12 fellow farmers and growers from around the UK, who provided produce for the hamper, in order to send a clear message to the Department for International Trade, promoting the high standards of British produce, and urging policy makers not to undersell British farmers.

She said: "The 2017 NFU conference saw a lot of discussion about future trade deals – how these deals must give farmers and growers the opportunities to export and must not see the industry traded off against other sectors. Our high standards

cannot be undermined.

"I was delighted to be able to join farmers and food producers from across the UK in sending this message to Liam Fox, who will be negotiating trade deals for Britain."

"We need Dr Fox to be proud of British farming – and not undersell it – we need him to ensure that our high standards are maintained and we don't open our borders up to cheap food produced at any cost from around the world."



Abi Reader at the NFU conference in Birmingham.

Cowbridge Art Society

ON Thursday, March 2 the artist, author and demonstrator Paul Weaver from Bristol (www.paulweaverart.co.uk) will give an acrylic demonstration of painting animals in a landscape.

On March 9, artist Gayle Rogers (www.gaylerogersart.com) will give a demonstration of watercolour pencils.

The society welcomes artists of any level, and also non-artists to see demonstrations of art techniques or attend illustrated lectures on art topics.

We meet on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge (7pm – 9 pm) and occasional visitors and new members are most welcome. For details of the society's programme and activities see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com or www.facebook.com/cowbridgeart.cas/?ref=bookmarks.

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CARING GETHIN (AGED 6) AND HIS PALS BRING COMFORT TO THE HOMELESS...

A six-year-old boy has been recognised by the Vale Council – after his campaign to help the homeless saw Fairfield Primary School donate more than 60 winter warmer bags to people sleeping rough in south Wales.

Gethin Pritchard, a pupil at Fairfield, was only two when he spotted people sitting on the street in Cardiff and asked his mum, Tammy, about them.

On learning they had nowhere to live, Gethin was concerned and wanted to help.

Assisted by brother Zak and sisters Alissa and Ellie-Mai, what

began with donations of hot drinks soon stretched to food and then gift cards for local coffee shops and bakeries.

But Gethin wasn't finished there, a spokesperson said and asked schoolmates to help. Together they started collecting even more supplies for the homeless.

Such was the response, a total of 64 aid bags containing the likes of thermal hats, scarves, gloves, toiletries as well as other items were donated by parents and distributed to those on the streets by charity Huggard.

Businesses also joined the effort, with Lenstec Optical Group in Caerphilly raising more than £200 towards items for bags.

Gethin and his schoolmates are now planning an even more ambitious project to collect waterproof sleeping bags and tents for the homeless.

In recognition of that effort, Gethin and other pupils at the school were specially presented with special certificates by Vale Council Deputy Leader Lis Burnett.

"When we heard what Gethin and his fellow pupils at Fairfield Primary School had done, we felt it should not go unnoticed," said Coun Burnett.

"With the encouragement and support of the school, these pupils are a shining example of good citizenship. They show great compassion at such a young age and are a credit to themselves, their families and their school. As a past pupil of the school, I was absolutely delighted to join the chief executive of the Huggard Centre at a recent school assembly to award the pupils Social Awareness certificates in recognition of their kind work."

Tammy Pritchard said: "The school was fantastic at getting on board with it all, and really helping. I mentioned it to one

teacher and they thought it was a brilliant idea. Then it was put to the school council, who were right behind it as well."

Father Tony Pritchard said: "When Gethin came up with the idea of the bags, it was a bit of a headscratcher in terms of how we were going to do it. Luckily, the school were amazing. Without them we wouldn't have got this off the ground."

"Some of the kids' families really went to town. We had jackets, trousers and hoodies. We want to say a big thank you to them."

Fairfield headteacher Sian Lewis said: "We were approached by Mrs Pritchard and Gethin and straight away the school council were supportive and wanted to get behind his initiative."

"We shared the idea with the children and had a wonderful response from them and their families. An incredible amount of stuff was brought in and we're just so proud of them and especially Gethin."

"As part of the curriculum, we talk to the children about being good citizens and having good values. This is a very good example of how they put that into action."



ABOVE, left to right, back row: Coun Lis Burnett, Zak Pritchard, Tony Pritchard, Tammy Pritchard, Alissa Pritchard, Huggard chief executive Richard Edwards. Front row: Gethin Pritchard and Ellie-Mai Pritchard.



Young Gethin wanted to help people living on the street.

Diabetes UK meeting

THE next meeting of this voluntary group is on Tuesday, March 21 in the Board Room, Llandough Hospital, Penarth at 7.30pm – 9pm.

The speaker will be Dr Julia Platts, consultant in diabetes. Group president will be giving a talk on 'developing diabetes services across Wales'. All welcome!

Hospital fundraiser

LOCAL people are being asked to help raise funds for Barry Hospital's younger and older onset dementia inpatient ward, at an event on March 3 from 7.30pm at Barcocoa, Barry; £5 entry.

Featuring music and entertainment from The Fax Machines, dance to this five-piece band featuring funk, soul, pop and rock 'n' roll covers. The special guest MC is stand-up comedian Dave Parton Jones.

Younger and older adults living with dementia are cared for on St Barruc's ward at the Barry Hospital, where the money raised will go directly towards making it "more comfortable and homely for the residents"

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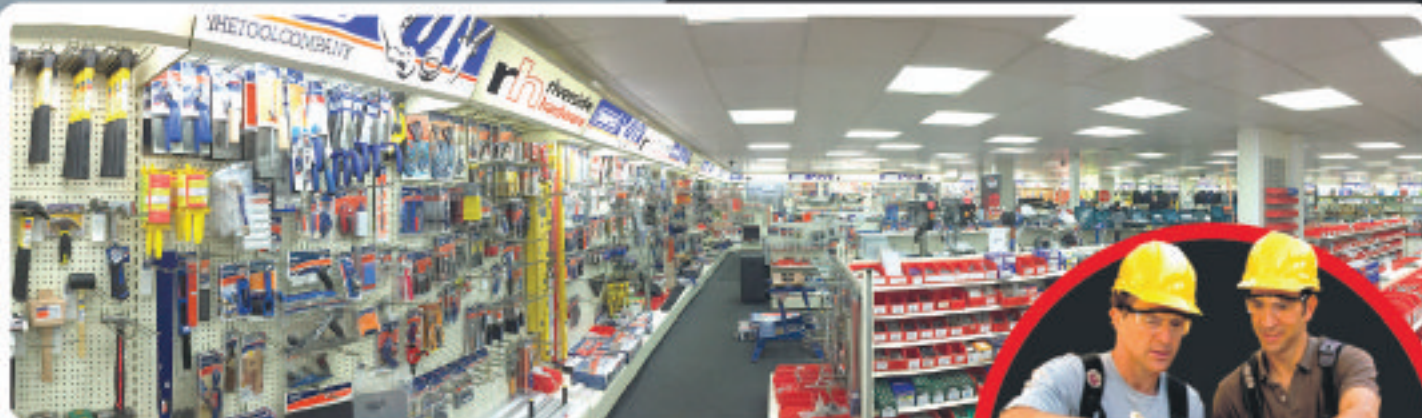
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Out & About with The GEM

True-life story lacks the human touch..

THE Boston Marathon bombing in 2013 was a terrorist attack that shook the world, its impact reverberating as people struggled to comprehend the severity of this atrocity.

The bombing, and the pursuit of the men responsible captivated a worldwide audience, so it's unsurprising that it has become the subject of a film, *Patriot's Day*.

Directed by Peter Berg, it stars Mark Wahlberg as Tommy Saunders, a policeman who is caught up in the bombing; providing support to the Boston police commissioner Ed Davis (John Goodman), FBI agent Ron DesLauriers (Kevin Bacon), it sees the city go into lockdown as the hunt for the two men (Alex Wolff and Themo Melikidze) responsible for the attack goes into overdrive...

Coming so soon after the events of April 15, 2013, *Patriot's Day* is a

film that attempts to delve beneath the surface to tell the story of how this attack occurred and the events that led to the death and capture of the men responsible.

While a noble, gripping story that celebrates the hard work and efforts of those tasked with capturing the terrorists (and those caught up in their actions), the film all too often feels like a procedural, a slowburner that etches out how the police and FBI went from having no information to enough information.

While this doesn't diminish the power of the story being told, and makes for a thoroughly engaging watch, you can't help but feel the more intriguing story is in what the film doesn't tell you.

As the film builds up to the attack we meet several characters who prove to be key in the story that unfolds, whether they be innocents who will find themselves embroiled in the events of the

ensuing days or those responsible for the attacks; yet the majority of these characters end up on the periphery, sidelined by the no-less engaging but slightly more familiar story of how the terrorists were caught.

Rather than appeal to the human interest in how these people survived and made it through the atrocity (something *Marathon: The Patriot's Day Bombing* documentary does exceptionally well), we end up with something that feels a little over-familiar, seemingly cribbed from the likes of 24 or any other 'catch-a-terrorist' film.

It's interesting, certainly, especially for those with little knowledge of what went down between the bombs going off and those responsible being tracked down, but doesn't really tread any new water in terms of its execution.

This is Peter Berg and Mark Wahlberg's second true-life disaster film in six months,

having previously directed and starred respectively in *Deepwater Horizon*, and both do a decent job here. Berg always brings an immediacy and an immersiveness to his filmmaking and this is no different, using inserts of real footage to give the film a more factual and grounded edge, while a shoot-out is gritty and impressively staged.

Wahlberg plays an amalgamation of several real-life characters, and despite being the name above the title of the film, and perhaps because of this doesn't really play a leading role; his Boston sensibility and knowledge of the area comes into play, guiding larger forces to make decisions they know will help track down the terrorists, but a monologue about the impact of terrorism aside, his role slots alongside the other performances with little fanfare, the film peculiarly anchored around his character.

John Goodman,

Kevin Bacon and JK Simmons all give the film a foundation of class and dependability in their roles, but it's very much an ensemble feel, the story dictating the importance of the characters and their involvement in the story.

But what smacks most of a missed opportunity is the last five minutes of the film; eschewing the fictionalised telling of the story, a mix of interviews with the real people who are depicted in the film and footage of the city in the aftermath of the attack are more powerful and potent than much of what is the film before.

Berg aims to end the film on the note that, given the atrocities that have since taken place in Brussels and Paris (to name but two), the power lies not with those who wish to harm but with those who have survived and thrived despite the actions of others.

It's a strong conclusion, yet given that the film is about the

manhunt rather than the human stories at the centre of the attack, it strikes a false note – Berg would arguably have been better telling this story in *Patriot's Day* rather than the compelling, but overly-familiar one he chooses to run with.

VERDICT – A powerful story well told, *Patriot's Day* is nonetheless something of a missed opportunity. Eschewing the story of those caught up in the

2013 Boston Marathon bombing for a more linear manhunt story, we are caught up in the drama but never as fully emotionally invested as we could have been. That said, few directors are capable of producing such compelling work as Peter Berg in what is still an impressive film. Recommended.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Deepwater Horizon* (2016), *World Trade Centre* (2006).



by
GARETH JAMIESON
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Barry Astronomical Society invitation

BARRY and District Astronomical Society is inviting people to a free two-part presentation at Barry Island Community Centre, to whet the interest of budding astronomers, as well as to help sharpen the knowledge and techniques of the more advanced.

Part 1 is on Monday, March 13 from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Members will explain telescopes and astronomical accessories, show how to make the most of observing and astronomical

imaging sessions, and offer advice on buying gear.

Part 2 takes place on Monday, March 27 at the same time and will introduce the changing skies and show how to find the best cosmic objects, as they reveal themselves month by month through the seasons.

Tea/coffee and biscuits plus social mingling will end these evenings, which will also be your opportunity to discover what we have to offer on regular membership. You are likely to go home pleasantly surprised!

For more information, call 07855-352147 or 029-2055-1704.

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WHAT'S ON AND WHERE?

Free lunch for the elderly

ON March 2, Cadoston Youth Project and Team are running a free luncheon at Cadoston Methodist Church for the elderly from 1pm-3pm, followed by a game of bingo.

The luncheon is funded by GVS and supported by Communities First Barry. To book a place, contact 01446 709432.

Also, they will be running a soup kitchen at the Cadoston Multicultural Voluntary Community Cafe, 97 Main Street, Barry, on March 7 and March 21 from 1pm-3pm where the elderly can meet others. Those unable to attend may arrange delivery.

For more information, contact Rita on 01446 734414.

Tai Chi for health

THERE is a popular Tai Chi class every Tuesday from 10am to 12 noon at the Coity and Litchard Centre, just west of the roundabout, Heol West Plas.

Free car parking and tea/coffee, biscuits after the first hour. Charge, £3 per hour.

However, for those who attend, a similar but free two-hour class is available by the same organisation in Porthcawl on Friday mornings, at the Awel y Mor Centre, Wellfield Avenue, Porthcawl.

Classes are well supported but there is room for more.

For details call Edwina 01656 728628

Friends of Penarth Library

ON Saturday, March 4, Friends of Penarth Library are having a book swap at the library between 10am and 1pm.

Enfys Craft Fair

THE second craft fair of 2017 will take place on Saturday, March 4 at the St Ffransis Millennium Hall, Park Road, Barry between 10am and 4pm with free admission.

Susan Roberts will take over the charity raffle for March and the charity will be Baby Basics, launched to provide urgent and necessary items for new mothers in the Vale needing support.

Those in need will receive a baby basket, containing everything for a newborn baby.

Any other local charities who would like the support of the Craft Fair raffle should contact Beryl Weale on 01446 418695.

A warm welcome is assured at Enfys craft

fair - why not come along? For more information contact Reg on 01446 792149 or Patricia on 01656 880784.

Orchid Society meets

AFTER a Christmas break the Cardiff and Vale Orchid Society reconvened in January; the members had a very successful post-Christmas lunch at the Toby Carvery in Rhosne and the AGM in February.

Our next meeting is on Saturday, March 4 at the Old School in Sully at 2pm with a talk by Mr Malcolm Perry, who will be giving a talk on Unusual Orchids.

Everyone with an interest in orchids and caring for orchids is welcome to join in.

For more information contact Tony Cumming on 01446 738472.

Health topics at Age Connects

IF you suffer from fibromyalgia, or have been recently diagnosed with this condition; if you are looking after a loved one or relative with fibromyalgia, Age Connects Cardiff and Vale is holding a Health Topic session on Tuesday, March 7 from 10am - 12pm.

This will be held at the Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry. No appointment is needed, just go along for a chat.

Call 01446 732385 for further information.

Meditation

ARE you looking at ways to relax, and lower your blood pressure - to control and manage chronic illness and pain - and help healthy breathing?

If so go along to Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry and join Natalie Snuggs' meditation class for people over 60.

An experienced teacher of over 25 years, she can help people to develop healthy breathing, mindfulness, positive thinking, and pain management, with exercises to be practiced at home.

Classes start on Thursday, March 9 from 3.15pm - 4.15pm; £35 per session.

Call 01446 732385 for further information.



In Business Update

SWEENEY'S BARBERSHOP

MEN'S haircuts are our speciality at Sweeney's Barbershop. Our barbershop provides men with excellent hair services. Whether you are looking for fades or shaves, we are here to assist you.

Every barber at our shop is friendly, professional, and provides excellent customer service.

We always listen to your preferences. If you don't know what kind of style you want, don't

worry - our barbers are experienced in haircuts. We've seen it all, from flat-tops to line-ups. We can make suggestions that make sense for you.

Let us give you the perfect haircut for a new and more stylish image! We gladly assist you in whatever style you like.

Come and visit our barbershop to get your new look today! Booking online at sweeneysbarbershop.co.uk.

You can also book your seat via the Booksy app: we're at 5 Castle Court, Castle Drive, Dinas Powys, CF64 4NS (opposite Tesco).

Vanity Fur brings Crafts magic to Barry

AS every dog lover knows March is month of the dog extravaganza Crafts, where beautifully groomed dog's compete for the coveted 'Best in Show'.

Vanity Fur dog groomers are no strangers to this competitive arena, grooming and competing there for many years. To celebrate the opening of their new Barry salon, they are

offering £10 off every full groom during March.

They provide all aspects of dog grooming and give that VIP treatment to all breeds, whether show dog or faithful companion, large or small.

For busy owners, they can provide a collection/delivery service and evening/weekend appointments.

To book an appointment, and claim your £10 discount, call 01446 400301.

VANITY FUR

Award Winning Dog Grooming

01446 400301

White Gecko craft lounge

THE White Gecko Craft Lounge has a number of new classes available, including some new mid-week evening classes - introduction to crochet, make a tablet stand, and more.

Pop in the shop for great yarn, fabric, haberdashery and more - plus grab a coffee and cake while you're there!

The success of previous coach trips to craft shows across the UK has led to a new trip to Wonderwool Wales on

Saturday, April 22. There are limited spaces still available, so book soon to grab your seat.

New stock is in from Makower, Stylecraft and more. The White Gecko team are also finalising details of the next Cardiff Craft & Hobby Show at Cardiff City Stadium, taking place on Friday and Saturday June 16 - 17. Tickets from: events.ticketbooth.eu/event/craft-hobby-show

For more information, visit our Facebook page, call 029 2115 2628, or visit us at 13 Camms Corner, Dinas Powys (CF64 4QY).

WHITEGECKOEVENTS

White Gecko Craft Lounge

New mid-week classes now on sale including intro to crochet, intro to knitting and more.

Spaces available for our coach trip to Wonderwool Wales on 22 April.

Plus new stock from Makower, Stylecraft and more!

Or contact us on 029 2115 2628 for more information

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An expert's advice could avoid dispute

BRENDAN SWEENEY of DAVID PROSSER & Co Solicitors, writes:

It is estimated that 60 per cent of the UK population do not have a Will.

A Will takes effect on your death and is an instruction as to what is to happen to your estate.

Probate disputes and challenges to Wills are becoming a growth area, which often leads to substantial costs.

We now live in a world where family relationships are often very complex, and expert advice regarding the drafting of a Will is essential.

A professional advisor can also advise you in relation to inheritance tax, and how you plan to minimise potential liabilities to inheritance tax.

It is important that

people are fully aware of their duties and financial responsibilities when they make a Will, to ensure that they comply with the technicalities that are required to have a valid Will.

The cost of a professionally-drafted Will, after taking advice, is considerably less than the costs that can be incurred if there is a dispute regarding your financial affairs after your death.

Substantial costs can also be saved by taking professional advice early, and putting in place Powers of Attorney - whereby you appoint trusted people to make decisions about your property and financial affairs and health and welfare, if your lose capacity.

The people appointed are made fully aware of their rights and responsibilities.

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David Prosser & Co is the trading name of DP Law Limited.

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A LOCAL accountancy firm is looking back on a decade in business in its Cardiff base - and is keen to offer its services to new customers.

'Accounted For' celebrated 10 years of trading last year and over that period of time it has been pretty busy.

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• 100,000+ payslips.
All of the above were on time, and also on budget.

The company has accounted for over £35 million in turnover, and has accounted for more than £100 million in assets.

Anyone interested in seeing whether Accounted For can help their business, should get in touch via the contact details below.

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Open weekend tells the story of wartime escape from Hut 9

THE site of the former Second World War German prisoner-of-war camp at Island Farm, Bridgend, was opened to the public recently as the Hut 9 Preservation Group staged their first open weekend of 2017.

A total of 630 visitors took the opportunity to visit the scene of the famous 'German Great Escape' and were entertained by volunteers, who told them more about the history of the site. The former World War Two camp is sealed to visitors for much of the time, but several times each year the locked doors of the hut from

which this escape was made, are opened to allow hundreds of visitors a rare look inside this unique building. Members of the Hut 9 Preservation Group and over 50 'living historians', dressed in period uniforms, gave talks and guided tours inside the hut. A number of period military vehicles were also on display.

Military historians were on hand to tell visitors about the history of the buildings, from their occupation by female workers at the nearby ordnance factory to the housing of hundreds of German prisoners of war. Also on display were dozens of original wall paintings made by the occupants over 70 years ago and rescued from some of the now-demolished huts.

Brett Exton gave illustrated talks on the history of the site, and Dr Jonathan Hicks told visitors about the work of the group since its formation in 2012, and ALSO gave an insight into that famous night in March 1945 when 70 German prisoners made their bid for freedom. A spokesman said: "Every penny donated by visitors at these special openings is spent on improving the visitor experience. In the last two years, under the guidance of group member Wayne Gill, the group has renovated a nearby derelict building to convert it into a visitor centre and this building now contains a recreation of the night that 70 Germans escaped through a tunnel dug from one of the rooms in Hut 9.

The group has also worked hard to kit out

the rooms inside Hut 9 to give visitors an insight into its fascinating past and another newly-furnished room was opened for the first time for this event.

A replica guard tower has been constructed by the group and a replica NAAFI café, staffed by volunteers, provided refreshments, while group member Stel Anthony recorded the memories of visitors who remembered the site in its heyday.

Dr Hicks said: "It was apparent from the hundreds of positive comments made by our visitors that they value the work we have done to keep alive this important piece of Welsh history. The open weekend was fully booked up months in advance, which gives some idea of the scale of public interest in this historic site."

"All 300 tickets for our June 10 event have already been reserved. I am now taking bookings for our October event, and half of the 600 tickets have already been snapped up. The interest in our work is phenomenal."

Donations to the Hut 9 voluntary group, which is seeking to ensure the future of the site, are welcomed and allow the group to make even more improvements to the building and surrounding area.

To reserve a place on the Hut 9 tours on October 7 and 8, email Dr Hicks at: bookings@hut9.org.uk. Details of the tours are also available via the group's website: www.hut9.org.uk.

Snowdogs spring into action for Ty Hafan...

EVERY dog has its day, and the Snowdogs are using theirs to raise money for a children's hospice.

On Thursday, March 9, Snowdogs: Tails in Wales will be welcoming everyone to an open day at Cardiff International White Water.

The event, from 8am to 6pm, will give curious dog lovers the chance to find out more about this 'mass participation public art trail' in aid of life-limited children and their families supported by Ty Hafan children's hospice.

The campaign, which has already created a buzz across the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff, will see a huge pack of 1.5m-high Snowdog sculptures sited on streets, iconic buildings and open spaces.

Each dog will have its own unique design created and painted by an artist or celebrity.

At the end of the 10-week trail, each dog will find a permanent home when they are put up for auction to raise money for the charity.

Helen Gibbons, project manager of Snowdogs: Tails in Wales, said: "This event is an opportunity to find out more about the campaign and how you or your organisation can get involved."

"Anyone is welcome to attend - just come in to say hello, and our friendly team will be on hand to answer any questions...and a few Snowdog sculptures are likely to make an appearance, too."

For more information visit www.snowdogstailsin.wales.



A Snowdog in the sun at Barry Beach.

Saint's day tea with Welsh Hearts charity

WELSH HEARTS will be holding a celebrity afternoon tea to mark St David's Day on Wednesday, March 1 at 10 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, with celebrity guests including Cardiff Blues' Alex Cuthbert and other members of the Welsh rugby squad.

Sharon Owen, the charity's director, urged: "Celebrate the Welsh Saint's Day in style and enjoy a traditional St David's Day afternoon tea, with a selection of finger sandwiches, assortment of delicious cakes, scones and a glass of bubbly on arrival. It's the perfect treat for mum, daughter, gran, auntie or with your friends."

All of the money raised will help Welsh Hearts continue its work in placing life-saving defibrillators in the community, as well as the Heart Screening Wales programme.

"To date, Welsh Hearts have been very successful in placing over 482 defibrillators

throughout Welsh communities. With the help of medical staff who donate their time, we have trained over 15,000 people to carry out CPR. This is exactly why events like the afternoon tea are so important, because every penny raised stays in Wales and is spent here to save lives.

"This year, your donation to Welsh Hearts will make such a difference and help us to place more defibrillators throughout Wales, and enable us to hold heart-screening sessions to detect heart abnormalities. We do not receive any Government funding, unlike other national charities. Please help us raise £1,000,000 in Wales this year and together we will save lives! Every tea party you hold will support the work of Welsh Hearts."

"Your support will help to save lives right here in Wales. Please do get in touch for further information."

Purchase tickets at welshhearts.org/events or contact Rebecca Mathias on 029 22 40 26710. Tickets £20.

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AUTISM IBOOK IS LAUNCHED

ON February 16, Vale AM Jane Hutt and Vale Council Deputy Leader, Coun Lis Burnett, cabinet member for education tended the launch of the Practical Autism Toolkit iBook.

The AM said: "The iBook is a highly-effective, interactive resource, which has been

developed through collaboration with pupils with autism and the wonderful people who support them."

Ysgol Y Deri will make this resource available through their website. The book includes photos, audio and video clips to describe strategies for creating autism-friendly environments and to help support pupils at school.

The Welsh Government supported this project through the Autism Strategy Fund.

Ysgol Y Deri received £5k of ASD strategy funding which they have used to develop this resource. The resource is designed to evolve as the schools involved continue to collaborate and work with young people with autism.

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Contact:

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High-flying cabin crew students celebrate...

A GROUP of 10 cabin crew students from Cardiff and Vale College are celebrating new jobs, despite only starting their courses in September.

It means that the entire cabin crew cohort will now progress straight from college on to the first step of their chosen careers when they complete their courses in March. Nine of the students have been employed by Swissport to provide check-in services at Cardiff Airport, and one has found work with easyJet.

Last November, a further three students accepted job offers from British Airways and easyJet.

"We have had a long and reciprocal partnership with Swissport over the last ten years," CAVC Aerospace and cabin crew lecturer Kay Davies said. "If you go into Cardiff Airport now, you will still find lots of former students there."

The students are currently based at the college's renowned International Centre for Aerospace Training, which is also based at Cardiff Airport in Rhosse. They are thrilled to have found employment, thanks to the skills they learned on their course.

"The cabin crew course has been a great course and help to me," 20-year-old Amir Mushtaq from Cardiff, said. "It helped me improve my confidence and it has helped me to get a job."

"I will be sorry to leave but it will be a privilege to be working just across the road at Cardiff Airport. I would recommend this course to anyone who is interested in this industry."

Zoe Davies, 21, from Llantwit Major, said: "I am very happy to begin employment with Swissport at Cardiff Airport in March. It will give me an amazing experience with the aviation industry and is one step closer to becoming cabin crew in the near future."

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the cabin crew course as it helped me gain more knowledge of the industry. I cannot wait to see what my future holds."

"It's been a wonderful course - I don't want to leave, plus the tutors are fab!" 18-year-old Hannah Williams from Penarth said. "Luckily I will only be across the road."

"I'm thrilled to have been offered a job by Swissport and I can't wait to start."

Gwenllian Arkless, 19 from Cardiff, said: "Not only did I learn a lot about cabin crew while being

on this course but also my confidence has improved when it comes to interviews. So when I found out that we had this job opportunity with Swissport I knew that my tutor, Kay Davies, was the one to thank."

Nineteen-year-old Aimee Marshall, from Barry, said: "I really enjoy the Cabin Crew course. I've made many new friends and have gained a variety of skills."

SUPPORTIVE

"My teacher Kay has been amazing and supportive and I will be very sad to leave. I have been offered a job at Swissport and I am very excited to start as it will be an amazing experience to put on my CV and help me progress to becoming a member of cabin crew with Emirates in the future."

Olivia Knight, 18, from Cardiff, said: "I have really enjoyed my time on the CAVC Cabin Crew course. I have made friends and will have memories for life. I believe this has helped me and set me up for my future in cabin crew - it has helped my confidence and my personal skills. The teachers have been amazing and very helpful."

"I'm so glad I started my career here and am very excited to start my journey just over the road with Swissport."

Swissport are also set to interview Level 3 Aviation Operations students for part time jobs and work experience, and Aerospace Engineering students to work as ramp agents and baggage cart drivers.

THE Ty HAFAN LOTTERY DRAW

THE following are 524507, 197819, winning numbers in 802219, 343177, the Ty Hafan 409231, 450343, Crackerjackpot 895211, 521095, lottery draw 284263, 683095, number D972: 309625, 457947, 823182, 192571, 891223, 262614, 610970, 836559, 756496, 172378, 469485, 961406, 616985, 420292, 164621, 1253, 918, 10549747, 1578793, 5424, 1256301, 5404, 5137.

● The £3,000 rollover: 789346. 676036M, 396798, 891223, 262614, 610970, 836559, 756496, 172378, 469485, 961406, 616985, 420292, 164621, 1253, 918, 10549747, 1578793, 5424, 1256301, 5404, 5137.

● £5: 546769, 458760, 230391, 111556, 207770, 896220, 745072, 697617, 2053 2300. The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above. For lottery information please telephone 029



Cabin crew students in the 'classroom in the sky' - a Boeing 737 fuselage at ICAT.

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Please come and meet us to view and have an input into the detailed proposals for Darren Farm, Cowbridge.

We always try to keep local communities informed as we prepare and make our planning applications.

Taylor Wimpey is intending to apply for the approval of reserved matters for its detailed plans at Darren Farm, Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan.



Come and meet us from:

12pm - 7.30pm on Wednesday 15 March 2017 at The Lesser Hall, Cowbridge Town Hall, High St, Cowbridge CF71 7DD

Details correct at time of going to press.

Make a noise and save lives

MY mother, the actress Marjie Lawrence, was diagnosed with ovarian cancer three weeks before she died. It was too late for anything but palliative care.

One in 50 women will develop ovarian cancer in their lifetime. Currently, less than a third of women are confident they know the four main symptoms, and earlier diagnosis could save thousands of lives. That's why Target Ovarian Cancer wants to Start Making Noise this March for Ovarian Cancer Awareness month.

The main symptoms of ovarian cancer are: tummy pain, persistent bloating, feeling full and needing to wee more.

I'm asking your readers to help save lives by joining us to start making noise, spread the word about the symptoms and raise much-needed money to support women living with ovarian cancer in the UK.



Blue Peter's Sarah Greene.

There are loads of ways to make some noise:

Bake Some Noise with a cake sale or coffee morning; the Big Colour Clash - join us on Friday, March 10 and wear your loudest outfits in school or work for a donation; challenge yourself to tell 50 people about the symptoms and raise £50.

We'll send you everything you need - free balloons, symptoms leaflets, badges and wristbands. Call 020 7923 5474 or visit targetovariancancer.org.uk/March. Sarah Greene, Target Ovarian Cancer ambassador.

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

(CROSS COMMON ROAD, DINAS POWYS (RHAN))

(CAU FFORDD) (DROS DRO) 2017

- Ar 2 Mawrth 2017, gwnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (fel y'i diwygwyd) Orchymyn a fydd yn gorfodi'r hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlenni isod:
- Gelwir y Gorchymyn "Gorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg (Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys (Rhan)) (Cau Ffordd (Dros Dro) 2017 a daw i rym ar 6 Mawrth 2017.

ATODLEN 1

- Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn achosi neu'n caniatáu i gerbyd modur deithio yn y lleoliad a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

- Lleoliad** Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys rhwng y gyffordd â'r A4055 Ffordd Caerdydd a'r gyffordd â Wellwood Drive.
- Rheswm** I allu tynnu dec y bont o'r hen bont dros Afon Cadoxton.
- Hyd** O 6 Mawrth 2017 am hyd at 18 mis.
- Llwybr Amgen** Bydd gwyriadau i draffig ar gael trwy gyffordd y ffordd newydd oddi ar Ffordd Caerdydd sydd i'r de o gyffordd Cross Common Road.
- DS:** Cynhelir mynediad i gerddwyr trwy'r bont droed bresennol. Dyddiedig 2 Mawrth 2017.
- M. E. Punter, Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Yr Alpau, Gwenfô, CF5 6AA.



THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

(CROSS COMMON ROAD, DINAS POWYS PART))

(ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2017

- On 2nd March 2017 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:
- The Order will be known as "The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys (Part)) (Road Closure) (Temporary) Order" 2017 and shall come into operation on 6th March 2017.

SCHEDULE 1

- No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

- Location** Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys between its junction with the A4055 Cardiff Road and its junction with Wellwood Drive.
- Reason** To allow for the removal of the bridge deck from the old bridge over the Cadoxton River.
- Duration** From 6th March 2017 for a maximum period of 18 Months.
- Alt. Route** Diversions for traffic will be available via the new road junction off Cardiff Road located to the South of Cross Common Road junction.
- NB:** Pedestrian access shall be maintained via the existing footbridge. Dated this 2nd day of March 2017.
- M. E. Punter, Director of Environment & Housing Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe, CF5 6AA.



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RESIDENTIAL



Lakeside, Barry - £425,000
Four bedroom semi detached residence situated on the Knap. Entrance porch. Hallway. Lounge/dining room. Family room. Conservatory. Kitchen/breakfast room. Family bathroom. UPVC DG and GCH. Front and rear garden. Small driveway and secure carport.



Romilly Park Road - £390,000
Five bedroom semi. Entrance porch. Hallway. Three reception rooms. En suite, shower room and family bathroom. Loft space. UPVC DG. GCH. Enclosed gardens.



Whitehouse, The Knap, Barry - £349,000
Two bedroom mid link residence on the edge of The Old Harbour. Entrance hallway. Living room. Kitchen. Cloakroom. Family bathroom and en suite. UPVC DG. GCH. Enclosed rear garden. Panoramic views. EPC rating: C.



Colcot Road, Barry - £344,950
Extended, three double bedroom detached residence. Architectural plans for a double storey extension. Kitchen with integral dishwasher and washer/dryer. Dining room. Shower room. Family bathroom. Boarded attic space. GCH. UPVC. Large garden, driveway, garage. EPC - D.



Nant Talwg Way, Barry - £299,950
Four bedroom detached. Hallway. Lounge open to dining room. Downstairs w/c. Fitted kitchen with integrated appliances. Family bathroom. Shower room. GCH. UPVC DG. Front and rear garden with driveway. Garage with utility area, and remote door. EPC rating: D.



Fontygary Road, Rhooose - £249,950
Three double bedroom semi. Lounge. Dining room. Fitted kitchen/breakfast room. Study. Downstairs cloakroom. Bathroom and separate w/c. UPVC DG. GCH. Gardens to front and rear. Large driveway. Garage. No chain.



Southesk Place, Barry - £209,950
Three bedroom semi detached property in a cul de sac location. Hallway, downstairs w/c. Lounge, dining room. Fitted kitchen, shower room. UPVC DG. GCH. Forecourt and south facing rear garden. (Viewing highly recommended).



Tynewydd Road, Barry - £195,000
Three bedroom semi detached. Entrance porch. Hallway. Lounge. Dining room. Sitting room. Kitchen. Family bathroom to first floor. Enclosed rear garden. GCH. Viewing highly recommended.



Brookfield Avenue, Barry - £179,950
Two bedroom semi detached bungalow. Entrance porch. Living room. Kitchen/dining room. Utility room. Family bathroom and separate cloakroom. Enclosed gardens to front and rear. UPVC DG. GCH. Driveway/garage. EPC rating: D.



Earl Crescent, Barry - £139,950
Three bedroom end link property. Entrance porch. Open plan living room. Kitchen. Bathroom with separate w/c. Enclosed rear garden. Property benefiting from UPVC DG and GCH. EPC rating: E. NO CHAIN.



Dovedale Street - £115,000
Traditional three bedroom. Entrance porch. Hallway. Lounge. Dining room. Kitchen and bathroom to the ground floor. GCH and partial UPVC DG. Enclosed forecourt and rear garden. NO CHAIN.



Vere Street, Barry
We have three available flats at this property. 2x 2 bedroom and 1x 3 bedroom that have all been recently refurbished to a high standard throughout. Please call for prices.



Adar Y Mor, Barry Island - £195,000
Well presented three bedroom link detached. Entrance hall. Cloakroom. Lounge. Kitchen/dining room. Bathroom and en suite shower room to master bedroom. UPVC DG. GCH. Enclosed garden. Driveway and garage. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.



Trinity Street, Barry - £127,500
Three bedroom bay fronted property. Entrance porch. Hallway. Lounge through dining room. Kitchen. Ground floor bathroom. Close to Romilly, St Barus and High Street Primary Schools. EPC rating: TBC. NO CHAIN.



Amorella House, Barry - £149,995
All furniture included. Two double bedroom top floor duplex apartment. Hallway. Lounge with French doors to balcony. Modern fitted kitchen/breakfast room with kitchen appliances. Bathroom and bedroom. Spiral staircase. Master bedroom, shower room. UPVC DG. EH. Two parking spaces. EPC rating: C. NO CHAIN.



Jenner Road, Barry - £209,950
Three bedroom, bay front residence. Entrance porch. Hallway. Open plan living room/kitchen fitted 2016. Modern white bathroom suite. UPVC DG. GCH. Enclosed gardens to front and rear. Garage. New roof in 2015. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.



Ffordd Cwm Cidi, Barry - £294,995
Four bedroom detached situated on Woodlands Rise. Entrance hallway. Lounge. Dining room. Kitchen/breakfast room. Utility room. Downstairs w/c. Family bathroom and en suite to master bedroom. UPVC DG. GCH. Rear garden. Driveway and garage. EPC rating: C. NO CHAIN.



St Osyth Court, Barry - £156,950
Two bedroom apartment enjoying panoramic views. Communal entrance and hallway. Lounge/dining room with access to balcony. Kitchen. Bathroom. UPVC DG. GCH. Well maintained communal gardens. EPC rating: C. NO CHAIN.



Waters Edge, Barry - £129,950
Well presented one bedroom, second floor apartment. Lift to all floors. Entrance hallway. Open plan living room and fitted kitchen with appliances. Modern bathroom. DG. EH. Video door entry system and intruder alarm. Secure, gated allocated parking. EPC Rating: D. NO CHAIN.



Lower Morel Street, Barry - £115,000
Three bedroom bay fronted property. Entrance hallway. Lounge. Dining room. Kitchen. Ground floor bathroom. UPVC DG. GCH. Rear garden. Forecourt. EPC rating: E. OFFERED FOR SALE WITH NO CHAIN.

COMMERCIAL



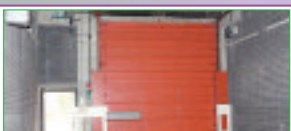
12 York Place - £12,000 Per Annum
Opportunity to lease suite of six offices plus board room set over two floors. Floor Area Approx 101m/1087ft. Kitchen and toilet facilities. Two allocated parking spaces. Low maintenance courtyard. Flexible terms.



Unit 15 Palmers Vale Business Centre - £365,000
The property is located on a secure multi-unit business centre. Internal area 6,000 SQ FT (557.3 sq m) with a large surfaced concrete yard that is fully enclosed with palisade fencing and two entrances.



Rear Of Old Barclays Bank, Barry - £12,000 Per Annum
RARE TO THE MARKET. An opportunity to lease the rear of The Old Barclays Bank on Broad Street. Unit comprising: ground floor warehouse and first floor with plant/offices suites. The premises were designed and built as a high security depots previously used by the Bank as a Bullion Centre. Various security precautions are therefore designed into the structure. Unit benefits from ample parking spaces. VIEWING RECOMMENDED.



Wenvoe Terrace, Barry - £450 Per CM
One bedroom ground floor garden flat. Open plan living area/fitted kitchen. Electric cooker and fridge. Wardrobes to bedroom. Unfurnished. Decorated to high standard. En suite shower room. Double glazed and electric heating. Small rear garden with sea views. Water rates are included in the rent.



Unit 1b Palmers Vale Business Centre - £15,000 Per Annum
An opportunity to let a furnished ground floor suite of open plan offices. Parking facilities. Main office area, three private offices, board room, kitchen area and rest room. Total floor area approximately: 183m/ 2,000 ft. For further information or to arrange a viewing please call 01446 701333.

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**Heritage Drive, Cardiff
£750 Per CM**

Three bedroom semi-detached house. Driveway and garage. Living room/dining room. Fitted kitchen with oven and hob. Utility room. Downstairs cloakroom. Family bathroom. En suite shower room. Rear garden. Available for viewings now and occupation 1st April 2017.

**Bell Street, Barry
£625 Per CM**

Three bedroom mid terrace house. Unfurnished. Through living room/dining room. Fitted kitchen with oven and hob. Upstairs bathroom. Gas central heating. Double glazed. Enclosed rear garden. Close to Romilly School. Easy access to the train station.

**Sea Point, Barry
£500 Per CM**

One bedroom top floor flat. Unfurnished. Fitted kitchen/diner. Bedroom with fitted wardrobe. Bathroom. Living room. Stunning sea views. Electric heating. Double glazed. Communal car parking.

**Glan-y-Mor, Y Rhodfa, Barry
£650 Per CM**

Two bedroom unfurnished apartment. Unfurnished. Good size living room. Fitted kitchen with oven and hob. Family bathroom with shower. En suite shower room. Gas central heating. Balcony overlooking the Waterfront. Close the train station. Allocated parking space.

**Maritime House, Barry
£575 Per CM**

Two double bedrooms. First floor apartment. Unfurnished. Outside terrace. Open plan living area/fitted kitchen. Bathroom with shower. Double glazed. Electric heating. Close to train station & town centre. No pets. No smokers. No DSS.

**Wenvoe Terrace, Barry
£450 Per CM**

One bedroom ground floor garden flat. Open plan living area/fitted kitchen. Electric cooker and fridge. Wardrobes to bedroom. Unfurnished. Decorated to high standard. En suite shower room. Double glazed and electric heating. Small rear garden with sea views. Water rates are included in the rent.

**Melrose Street, Gospel Hall, Barry
£600 Per CM**

Two bedroom first floor apartment. Unfurnished. Lounge. Fitted kitchen with oven and hob. Bathroom. Ensuite shower room. Rear enclosed garden. Gas central heating. Double Glazing.

**LETTINGS
01446 701333**

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Trerhyngyll, Vale of Glamorgan

- Four double bedrooms, ensuite
 - Three reception rooms
 - Double garage
 - Village location
 - Countryside views
- EPC = C
£575,000



St Brides Major, Vale of Glamorgan

- 1848 stone built six bedroom former Vicarage
 - 1 acre of gardens and grounds.
 - Lounge. Dining room. Study. Games Room. TV Room.
 - Large kitchen/breakfast room, utility, cellar, boot room, tack room.
 - Three bathrooms, extensive improvements, new garage
- EPC = TBC
£895,000



Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan

- 5 bed semi-detached, within walking distance of Cowbridge town centre
 - Ensuite, downstairs shower room, bathroom and utility room
 - Three reception rooms, spacious family kitchen/dining room
 - Extended in 2011, contemporary throughout.
 - Off-road parking and generous garden with shed/workshop.
- EPC = C
£395,000



St Mary Church, Vale of Glamorgan

- Victorian, semi-detached cottage
 - Four bedrooms, ensuite, Two reception rooms
 - 17' Kitchen/diner, Cloakroom
 - Enclosed rear garden with office/workshop
 - Driveway
- EPC = E
£365,000

Cowbridge

- Extended, three bedroom semi-detached
- 15' contemporary kitchen/diner
- Large utility room or office space
- Cul-de-sac location, walking distance to town
- Off-road parking, cloakroom and gardens

EPC = D
£299,950

2,3 & 4 bedroom houses
needed for waiting
buyers in the Vale of
Glamorgan.

Contact us today for a
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your home.

Llantwit Major

- Four bedroom detached
- Contemporary kitchen with appliances
- Lounge and separate dining room
- Larger than standard single garage
- Driveway & rear garden

EPC = C
£229,950



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LOW COST HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

ST DAVIDS MEADOW, COLWINSTON

- One, two-bedroom mid link house for sale
£133,000* (*70% of market value)
- Two, two-bedroom end link houses for sale
£140,000* (*70% of market value)

Hafod Housing Association in partnership with the Vale of Glamorgan Council has three new two-bedroom homes for sale, available at St Davids Meadow, Colwinston.



The open market value of these homes start at £190,000 and Hafod are selling 70% of this which is £133,000.

Priority will be given to people with a local connection, but we welcome applications from people who live and / or work in the Vale. Eligibility criteria apply.

Are you a first-time buyer?
Want to own your own home?
Unable to afford market prices?
Look no further – homeownership could be within reach



NEW HOMES FOR RENT AT REFLECTIONS @ THE QUAYS, BARRY WATERFRONT

Newydd Housing Association together with The Vale of Glamorgan Council announces the new development at Reflections @ The Quays, Barry Waterfront.

Bids are invited from Homes4U members.

- Five, one-bedroom flats
- Five, two-bedroom flats

Amenities include car parking, bin store and bike storage.

No pets. No lift.

- One-bedroom rent **£86.35** plus service charge
- Two-bedroom rent **£92.82** plus service charge



Newydd Housing Association is committed to providing a safe and sustainable environment and will be asking for references and carrying out interviews with prospective tenants to achieve the full potential for this development.



To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at
HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
or apply in writing to:

Vale of Glamorgan Council, Environment and Housing
Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU



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rightmove.co.uk
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**PROPERTIES
REQUIRED
for Waiting
Buyers**

LLANTWIT MAJOR £55,000 Nutwalk CF61 1BH TWO BEDROOMS UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING GAS CENTRAL HEATING PRIVATE GARDEN TOTAL LENGTH 7.46 WIDTH 3.56	LLANMAES £68,500 Millands Park CF61 2XY ONE BEDROOM NEW UNIT OPEN VIEWS OVER 45'S CAN APPLY	ST ATHAN £107,500 Starling Road CF62 4NJ FREEHOLD, TWO BEDROOMS GAS CENTRAL HEATING IDEAL FOR FIRST TIME BUYER	ST ATHAN £122,500 Mallory Close CF62 4JJ FREEHOLD, FOUR BEDROOMS CONSERVATORY, GAS CENTRAL HEATING UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, IDEAL FAMILY HOME	EGLWYS BREWYS £129,995 Eagle Road CF62 4NR FREEHOLD, THREE BEDROOMS GAS CENTRAL HEATING, LARGE REAR GARDEN OFF ROAD PARKING SPACE, IDEAL FAMILY HOME	LLANTWIT MAJOR £195,000 Fitzhamon Ave. CF61 1TN FREEHOLD, THREE BEDROOMS, SOUTH FACING GARDEN, GAS CENTRAL HEATING VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED, EPC - E
LLANTWIT MAJOR £249,995 Colhugh Park CF61 1RU TWO BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS QUIET CUL DE SAC LOCATION, DOWNSTAIRS W.C. SHOWER, GARAGE, FREEHOLD	LLANTWIT MAJOR £275,000 Boverton Brook CF61 1YH FREEHOLD, NEWLY FITTED KITCHEN, TWO GROUND FLOOR BEDROOMS, TWO 1ST FLOOR BEDROOMS GAS CENTRAL HEATING, GARAGE	PONTYCLUN £284,995 Miskin Crescent CF72 8JL FOUR BEDROOM, THREE BATHROOM THREE RECEPTION ROOM, LARGE GARDENS GARAGE, DRIVEWAY, SOUGHT AFTER VILLAGE	LLANTWIT MAJOR £291,500 Grange Gardens CF61 2XB FIVE BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS SOUTH FACING GARDEN, INTEGRAL GARAGE VIEWING IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED	LLANTWIT MAJOR Reduced To £385,000 Boverton Road CF61 1YA DETACHED PROPERTY FOUR BEDROOMS PRIVATE GARDENS GARAGE	LLANTWIT MAJOR £419,995 Llanmaes Road CF61 2XE FOUR BEDROOMS, TWO EN-SUITES TWO BATHROOMS, GARAGE DOUBLE GLAZED

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**119a Wyndham House,
Wyndham Street,
Bridgend, CF31 1EF.
01656 655936.**

**105 Talbot Road,
Talbot Green,
CF72 8AE.
01443 222420.**



To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at
HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
 or apply in writing to:
 Vale of Glamorgan Council
 Environment and Housing
 Civic Offices, Holton Road
 Barry CF63 4RU

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 8 MARCH 2017

All Homes4U properties have double glazing and central heating unless otherwise stated and will be allocated to the maximum occupancy.

It may take longer to rehouse you if you are awarded medical priority as there is a shortage of accessible and adapted homes in the Vale.

CAMMS CORNER, DINAS POWYS



H4U reference 251776

- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor

Rent £97.17 per week including water charges

DUNLIN COURT, BARRY



H4U reference 142121

- One-bedroom flat
- First floor

Rent £85.55 per week including service charge

HANOVER COURT, BARRY



H4U reference 982571

- 55 (50 with medical priority)
- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor (no lift)
- Alarm system

Rent £105.79 per week

MAES YR YSGOL, BARRY (2)



H4U reference 973879

- 2 x one-bedroom flats
- Ground and first floors

Rent £83.12 per week including service charge

PENDINE CLOSE, BARRY



H4U reference 220052

55+

- One-bed bungalow
- Steps down to
- Level access shower
- Warden/alarm

Rent £102.46 pw inc. water and warden chgs

RAVENSHOE ROAD, BARRY



H4U reference 142119

- Priority for applicants with mobility issues
- Three-bedroom house
- Level access shower
- Stairlift

Rent £102.87 per week

SEYS COURT, LLANTWIT MAJOR



H4U reference 235942

- Three-bedroom house

Rent £111.11 per week including water charges

SLADEWOOD HOUSE, BARRY



H4U reference 223705

- Two-bedroom flat
- Ground floor

Rent £92.12 per week including water charges

ST LUKES AVENUE, PENARTH



H4U reference 244955

- Two-bedroom flat
- Second floor

Rent £95.15 per week including water charges

SULLY ROAD, PENARTH



H4U reference 142145

- Priority for existing social housing tenants with a good tenancy history in the Penarth area
- Three-bedroom house

Rent £101.26 per week service charge to be confirmed

SULLY ROAD, PENARTH

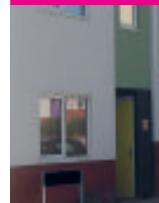


H4U reference 142157

- Priority given to existing social housing tenants living in crowded conditions in Penarth with acceptable tenancy
- Four-bedroom house

Rent £120.30 p.w.service chg to be confirmed

THE BEACON, PENARTH HEIGHTS



H4U reference 142133

- Two-bedroom flat
- Ground floor

Rent £99.20 per week including service charge

TREHARNE ROAD, BARRY



H4U reference 226525

- Two-bedroom flat
- Ground floor (steps up)

Rent £89.93 per week including water charges

TWYN YR EGLWYS, COLWINSTON



H4U reference 229632

- Rural Vale with no public transport
- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor

Rent £85.24 per week including water charges

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



AWBERRY HOUSE, BARRY

Expressions of interest are sought for two bedroom flats over four floors with a lift. Applicants must:

- be over 40 years old;
- have a good tenancy history; and
- have no previous history of anti-social behaviour.

Successful applicants will be subject to reference checks and interviews prior to any offer being made.

SHARED ACCOMMODATION – WATERFRONT, BARRY

Expressions of interest are invited from two single applicants who are friends or relatives looking to share and are registered with Homes4U.

Applicants under the age of 35 will be given priority.

You would be sharing a two-bedroom flat. Applicants will have their own bedroom and will share a lounge, kitchen and bathroom. Car parking is available.

No pets, no lift and no adaptations.

Rent £92.82 plus service charge.

Visit the HOMES4U web page to view homes available immediately

www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk



Vale of Glamorgan Council Hafod Housing Association Newydd Housing Association United Welsh Wales and West Housing Association

You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of the rented homes.

When bidding for more than one property you will be asked to state your order of preference. All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness.

See our other advert for low-cost home ownership and new development opportunities



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WINDSOR CLOSE, BOVERTON



- Semi detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Attractive gardens

£159,950

BEDFORD HOUSE, CEFN CRIBWR



- Set in c.3.5 acres
- Five bedrooms
- Three reception rooms
- Private setting

£725,000



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TYN Y BETTWS FARM, BETTWS



- Character Farmhouse
- 7.5 acres
- Outbuildings with potential to convert
- Secluded setting

£595,000

THE GRANARY, BONVILSTON



- Five bedrooms
- Under floor heating
- Annexe potential
- Double garage

£650,000

CLOS FFAWYDDEN, YSTRADOWEN



- Five bedrooms
- Three reception rooms
- Double garage
- Private parking

£410,000

OLD FORGE, BONVILSTON



- Four large bedrooms
- Four reception rooms
- Double garage
- Family home

£650,000

HIGH STREET, LALESTON



- Private parking
- Modern interior
- Three bedrooms
- Charm and character

£240,000

CLOS Y FULFRAN, BARRY



- Five bedrooms
- Three reception rooms
- Three ensembles
- Double garage

£425,000

HENDRE, COLWINSTON



- Five bedrooms
- Double garage
- Three reception rooms
- South facing gardens

£625,000

SMEATON CLOSE, RHOOSE



- Semi detached family home
- Three bedroom
- Two reception rooms
- Good size garden

£170,000

THE MEADOWS, CORNTOWN



- Three bedrooms
- Cul de sac position
- Semi detached
- Conservatory

£210,000

LYNDALE, LLANBLETHIAN



- Large detached property
- Three reception rooms
- Four bedrooms
- Double garage with workshop

£560,000

BADGERS BROOK CLOSE, YSTRADOWEN



- Three bedrooms
- Sought after location
- Recently redecorated/carpeted
- No chain

£230,000

EWENNY ROAD, BRIDGEND



- Bay fronted semi detached property
- Two reception rooms
- Three bedrooms
- Extended and improved

£215,000

LLYS TRE DWR, BRIDGEND



- Detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Private parking
- Under 10 year NHBC Warranty

£169,950

STATION TERRACE, PETERSTON-SUPER-ELY



- Extended terrace property
- Ideal family home
- Two bedrooms plus attic conversion
- Generous

£225,000





Heol Ger-y-Felin, Llantwit Major
4 Beds. 3 Recps.
En-Suite. Extended.
Conservatory.

£279,950 C71



Picton Court, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms.
Extended.
Garage.

£187,500 D68



Glebeland Place, St Athan
3 Bedrooms.
Conservatory.
Impressive Rear Garden.

£154,950 D66



Chris Davies



Brecon Street, Llantwit Major
3 Beds. 2 Recps.
Extended.
Show Home Standard.

£199,950 D56



Tyle House Close, Llanmaes
4 Beds. 2 Recps.
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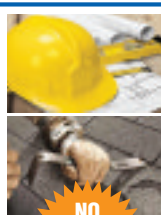
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Family Notices

SMITH

Isobel (Linda)

Suddenly after a short illness at Llandough Hospital on 21 February, Isobel (Linda), aged 62 years of Barry. Loving partner of Patrick. A loved mother of Ian and the late Andrew, cherished grandmother of Brandon and Andrew, loved sister of Marion, Norma, Kay, Janice and Stewart.

Linda will be sadly missed by all of her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare Gladstone Road, Barry. Funeral service and committal at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry, where family and friends please meet on Wednesday, March 8 at 11am. Family flowers only, if desired donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for Marie Curie Holme Tower, Bridgeman Road, Penarth.

DAVIES

Pauline Nancy

Suddenly passed away at her home on 24 February 2017. Pauline, much loved wife of John, mother of Kirsty, loving grandmother to Daisy, Sophie and Katie and great grandmother to Noah.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, College Street, Llantwit Major until the funeral service in Coychurch Crematorium on Tuesday, 7 March at 10.30am. Donations may be made to Marie Curie c/o the funeral home (cheques only please).

DAVID

John Anthony

The family wish to announce the sad passing of John Anthony David (JAD) aged 45, on February 11 at home.

He will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

HOLTAM

Vernon

Peacefully at Llandough Hospital on 21st February 2017, Vernon, aged 96 years, beloved husband of the late Maisie, loved father of Rosemary, Brian and Helen, father-in-law of Martin, Gill and Gerwyn, cherished grandfather and great grandfather.

Vernon will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the Service on Friday, 10th March at All Saints Church at 3pm, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if so desired, for Cancer Research Cymru c/o the funeral director.

DENNIS

Valerie

On February 17, at Llandough Hospital, Val of Barry. Beloved wife of the late Roy, dear sister-in-law of Violet, and loving auntie of Louise, Gill and Jeff.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonnmon. Funeral Thursday March 9. Service and cremation 2pm at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Ty Hafus c/o J James, 11 Fonnmon Road, Rhosce, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ.

CORP

Patricia Jane (née Morris)

Peacefully on 20th February 2017, Patricia, beloved wife of the late Eric. Much loved mum of Melanie, Justin and Caroline, loved grandma of Anwen, Taran, Evan, Freddy, Emily and Iestyn.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Friday, 10th March 2017 at 1pm. Flowers may be sent to the funeral home. Donations in lieu, if so desired, for Ty Hafan c/o the funeral director.

MORRIS

John Rees

Peacefully at Llandough hospital on 22nd February, aged 89 years. Loving husband to the late Margaret, loving father to Colin, Glyn and Ruth, father-in-law to Lorraine and Sally. Loving grandfather to Rebecca, Eleri, Katie, Ieuan and Rhys, and great grandfather to Oliver.



John will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Resting at Park Funeral Directors, Barry until the service on Monday, 6th March at Holy Trinity Church, Barry at 12pm, followed by the committal at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium at 1pm. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if desired, may be sent to The British Lung Foundation.

LLEWELYN

William Edward (Bill)

Peacefully at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff on February 16, Bill of Heol-y-Gaer, Barry. Dearly beloved husband of Sheila, much loved dad of Glynis, John and Ceri. Father-in-law of Paul, Diane and the late Brian. Adored grandad of Rhys and Sian.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until his reception into St Helen's RC Church, Barry, on Thursday, March 2 at 4.30pm for his requiem mass on Friday, March 3 at 11.30am, followed by cremation at the Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 1pm. Family flowers only, but donations in lieu of flowers to Ty Hafan, The Children's Hospice in Wales, Appeals Office, Hayes Road, Sully, CF64 5XX.

LONG

Lorna Margaret
(of Llantwit Major)

Passed away on 18th February 2017. Beloved wife of Geof and a dearly loved mum of Martin, Paul and Alison. Gran to Alex, Steffan, Catrin, Sarah-Jane, Ollie. Mother-in-law of Eleri, Debbie and Ian.

Funeral service to be held on Tuesday, 7th March at Coychurch Crematorium at 1.45pm. Family flowers only please, donations, if desired, to Cancer Research, Velindre Hospital, Velindre Road, Whitechurch, Cardiff, CF14 2TL.

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Family Notices

LEGG

Pamela Gloria

Sadly after a short illness on Thursday, February 23rd, Pamela passed away. Beloved wife of the late Douglas, best mother in the world to Kevin, Janet and Jacqueline. Mother-in-law to Anne, Davy and Bob. A wonderful grandmother to Marion, Robyn, Hayley and Cameron and a great grandmother to Lara.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, College Street, Llantwit Major until the funeral service on Tuesday, March 7th 2017 in Cardiff & Glamorgan Memorial Park Crematorium at 3pm.

BOWKETT

Robert (Bob)

Suddenly but peacefully on 19th February 2017, Bob, much loved husband of Sheryl, loving father of Karl and Nicola. Father-in-law of Lorraine. Devoted gramps of Danielle, Lauren, Heather and Leah. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Monday, 6th March at 12 noon. Donations in lieu may be sent to the British Heart Foundation, Sophia House, 28 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, CF11 9LJ or the RAF Benovolunt Fund, 75 Morel Street, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, CF63 4PN.

CORRIGAN

Daniel

Peacefully at Barry Hospital on 25th February 2017, Daniel, aged 72 years. Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service in the Chapel of Rest on Thursday, 9th March at 11am, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery. No flowers by request. Donations, in lieu, if so desired, for The Alzheimer's Society c/o the funeral director.

Acknowledgements

WINSTONE

Peter

Diane, Andrew and family wish to thank those who attended Peter's funeral and for the many cards and flowers sent.

We wish to thank Rev Canon David Brunning for the lovely service, the doctors and nurses of the Vale Surgery, Velindre Hospital for their devotion, to Jeff for being such a good brother and Eileen for being such a good friend.

HARRIS

Graham William

Glenys and Gareth wish to thank all those who were able to attend the service to celebrate Graham's life, held at St. Mary's, Wenvoe, led so well by Rev. Jon Ormrod.

The family would also like to thank those who sent messages of sympathy and donations for The Alzheimer's Society and Kidney Research UK, in memory of Graham. Thanks also to the staff at Adams Funeral Directors for all their help and assistance.

In Memory

GULWELL

Graham
March 4, 2016

Treasured memories of Graham, never more than a thought away. Loved and remembered every day. Loving wife Dot and all the family xxx

TROTT

Heather

15 years on 6th March 2017. On Bossington mountain by the sea.

Always in my heart.

We all miss you very much, John and family xxx



EVANS

Gaynor Mary (née Stevens)

(March 3)

Always on our minds, forever in our hearts. No cards today Gaynor.

Love always Mum, Dad, Sylvia, Gerald & family xxx

HUISH

Pauline

Our darling 'Polly' 27/2/12

You were a gift sent straight from Heaven, Given to us from God above, We didn't know how much you'd teach us About the meaning of true love...

But love sometimes means letting go, Of someone precious and so dear, Five years ago we were forced to, Although we wanted to keep you here.

Perhaps you are an Angel now, Full of wisdom and of love, Watching over us who love you, From the stars above.

We miss you more than you can know, You will never be replaced, In our hearts and memories forever, Will be your sweet and smiling face.

With love always, Steve, Andrea and all the family

Thank You

THANK YOU

I would like to say a big thank you to the person who kindly found my wallet in Kings Square, Barry at approximately 11am on Saturday, 25 February and placed it behind my windscreen wiper.

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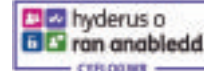
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Birth
Announcement

Neil and Sarah Harding are delighted to announce the safe arrival of

Carys Gwen

Born 6.32am on Thursday, February 23, 2017 weighing 6lb 10oz. Sister for Ellie and Jack.



Birthdays

Sherry Austin

Happy 60th Birthday for 7th March



Lots of love Aunty Mave, Uncle Fred, Lorraine and Vernon xxx

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Penarth Hockey Club news round-up

IT was a case of win, lose and draw for Penarth Hockey Club's three active sides at the weekend, but each remains in control of their own destiny as the promotion race in their respective GoCrea8 leagues intensifies.

PENARTH 5, BRISTOL UWE 3

With the Conference North schedule heading into the final straight, Penarth faced the first in a run of fixtures to the finish line with revenge on the agenda as they looked to reverse one of only two defeats suffered this season.

Bristol UWE were the visitors to Stanwell, and found Penarth back to their brilliant best in the early stages, the home side playing with an intensity their opponents could not handle.

Consequently, the goals soon began to flow, Chris Baker opening the Bears' account as he found himself one on one in the 'D' before committing the keeper and coolly slotting the ball into the bottom corner.

Minutes later, the goalscorer turned architect, creating panic in the UWE defence before finding the in-form David Joyce, who smartly rounded the 'keeper and produced a fine finish from a tight angle.

The Bears should have been in full control but, as the game settled down, UWE began to warm to the challenge and started to dictate the play more and more as Penarth abandoned their intensity and communication as tiredness crept in.

After a period of pressure, during which the home side was grateful to goalkeeper Simon Comfort for keeping the score at 2-0, Penarth's resistance finally broke following a barrage of penalty corners.

Hunting the green-shirted midfielders in twos, UWE sprung their trap, turning the ball over in the final third and getting through on goal before making no mistake to draw a goal back and finish the half strongly.

Penarth were definitely the happier to hear the half-time whistle and take the opportunity to regroup, and the break immediately paid dividends as, rallying to player-coach Ben Croxall's battle cry behind the efforts of midfielder Joe Thomas, they rediscovered their former intensity to score straight from the restart.

Using the Bears' press to force the UWE defence into a mistake in a dangerous area, Baker fed the

turnover ball to Andrew Willemite, who calmly lifted it over a defender's stick and, once into the 'D', chipped the still bouncing projectile over the on-rushing 'keeper from an acute angle.

With their tails up once again, Penarth would pull the same trick immediately after the restart, forcing the shell-shocked students into another turnover, with Baker this time backing himself to score as he squeezed through to defenders and fired home on his backhand to put the home side into a commanding 4-1 lead.

Incredibly, Penarth continued to make hay while the sun made a rare appearance, adding a third strike of the half before their own defence had even been called into action.

This time the goal came from a set-piece, with Croxall firing low to the keepers left from a penalty corner, the netminder unable to sort his feet out before the ball had hit the backboard and all but seal the victory with just five minutes on the second-half clock.

As suddenly as the Penarth blitz had started, however, it was brought to an abrupt end with captain Tom Haran receiving a harsh 10 minutes yellow card 'sin bin', which allowed the students some respite from the onslaught.

Pulling one goal back while holding the numerical advantage, UWE would go on to add a third late in the half, but never truly threatened to catch the Bears, who relied on two truly remarkable spells of hockey to win the game comfortably.

Penarth's progression requires them to produce the type of hockey which produced five goals in those two short spells carried over 50, 60 or even 70 minutes.

However, with another home victory in the bag and results elsewhere going their way again, the Bears will take comfort from further increasing their lead at the top of the division and inching closer to the winning line.

CARDIFF MEDICS A 1, PENARTH A 1

It was a different story for Penarth's second XI, who travelled to Talybont Sports Complex to face Cardiff Medics with half of their usual team either injured or unavailable to play but, facing bottom-of-the-table opposition, the Bears remained confident of an away victory.

In the opening exchanges, however, it became apparent that this Cardiff Medics team was not the same second string that had been comfortably despatched in the reverse fixture, as the home side played hockey far above their lowly De Cymru 1 position and dominated possession.

In an open first half, in which both sides had

chances, the Medics were largely held out by strong Penarth defending from a makeshift back four that included the unfamiliar faces of Nick Pratt and Joe Wells, both playing their first game for the A team this season.

When the defence, in which Jamie Davison turned in a strong performance, was breached, the Medics continued to be thwarted by goalkeeper Adam Putt, who made several fine saves to ensure that the scores remained level for almost the entire period.

Penarth, however, also looked dangerous when they managed to get the ball into the final third, and Jack Jopson and Richard Baker both tested the Medics keeper several times before the latter broke the deadlock, deceiving the keeper with a reverse stick strike at the near post shortly before the half-time whistle.

At the interval, the Bears knew they had to find a way to keep possession if they were to hold onto their slender lead, but the fact that they were missing so many regular players meant that it was difficult to do so, with a lack of cohesion very apparent when going forward.

The persistent turnovers allowed Cardiff to attack at will, and the Bears' defence did extremely well to hold out until the final ten minutes, only for the home side to get a deserved equaliser, breaching the resistance with extra men and firing home from close range.

The final few minutes saw more of the same, with the Medics looking increasingly likely to snatch a second, but it was Penarth who came closest to winning the game, with Baker and Sam Chick linking up on the counter-attack before Chick's effort sneaked just wide of the near post.

A share of the spoils was not the result the Bears wanted – or needed – but the fact that they dug deep

to secure a point with an under-strength side keeps them in the top two overall by merit of goal difference, and gives them the narrowest advantage in the hunt for promotion with only four games remaining.

PENARTH B 0, SWANSEA UNIVERSITY C 7
A slightly below strength Penarth third string took on De Cymru 3 champions-elect Swansea University at Stanwell knowing that an unlikely win would confirm their own promotion behind the student side.

However, this was not to be as the visitors, themselves very much at full strength, produced some of the best hockey seen at this level all season to deservedly take a comfortable win and leave the Bears to put the champagne back on ice for at least another fortnight as they head into a bye week prior to another tricky encounter with Gwent on the second weekend of March.

Three Penarth teams are in action again this weekend, with the first XI travelling to Bristol University for a late morning fixture, while both the second and fourth XIs enjoy home encounters with Swansea City (1.45pm start) and Gwent (3.30pm start) respectively.

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability. When the regular season resumes, training will take place on Wednesdays at Stanwell School, with the juniors on the pitch between 6.15pm and 7.15pm and the seniors between 7.00pm and 8.15pm.

Anyone interested in joining the club at senior or youth level can contact club secretary Dave Stevens (d_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk) for further information.

CL

Farmers defy Doris as 80mph gusts make things difficult!



Raymond Thomas drives off!



Winning golfers with sponsor Mr Glyn Watts-Jones.

The Vale of Glamorgan Football League round-up

WE open with news that Dinas Powys Athletic have withdrawn from the league and so their record has been expunged.

A sad end for a club that saw successive promotions since their inception.

Dinas' departure gives the Premier Division a slightly different look as their results for or against do not count now.

Only six games were played across the three divisions this weekend with the weather postponing six other games.

In the Premier Division Rhose continued their fantastic form with a tight 2-1 victory over Penarth Town. The result sees Rhose draw level with Vale United at the top of the table, however, Rhose have played five games more.

Elsewhere in the Premier, St Athan took all three points at Maslin Park with a 3-1 over Island Marine, Josh Morgan (two) and Jordan Mortimore scored.

Tynwydd picked up a much-needed win as they dispatched bottom side

Masons Moving Group

5-1.

In Division One league leaders Barry Athletic B edged ever closer to the league title with a 4-0 victory over Cadoxton Barry, Izaak Farrag (two), Dan Morgan and Mark Kingdon with the goals making it six league wins on the bounce.

With only three games remaining, can Athletic B hold on to their lead to clinch the Division One title?

Cadoxton Athletic defeated Dockers 5-1 to leapfrog them into seventh place while the result of Sully vs SP Billy was unknown as of writing.

Only one game in Division Two but it was a goal fest as league leaders Cadoxton Imps beat the much improved Rhose B 6-3.

Imps will hope their recent blip is over as they sit four points ahead of second place with six games to go.

This week's games of the day must be St Athan vs Penarth, Cogan vs Barry Belgrade and a big clash of third vs first, Penarth B vs Cadoxton Imps.

HD

Barry and District Ladies Skittle League

LATEST results for the Barry and District Ladies Skittle League for week commencing February 13 are as follows:

First division: SV Gals (V Pycroft 31) 309; Space Finders (A Norman 30) 301; Pila Pals (S Potter 32) 332; Red Admiral (S Romans 34) 320; Family and Friends (G Loveless, J Jones 24) 242; Bakers Dozen (K James 33) 259; Barry Stars (A Morgan 34) 326; Family Affair (G Taylor 30) 312; Coppers (D Nesbitt 33) 328; Bobby's Girls (G Toogood 35) 304; Colcot Ladies (H Edwards 29) 259; Cigar Ladies (A McCarthy 29) 249; Special Angels (T Jones, P Grisdale 26) Allsorts (R Dawe 27) 246.

Second division: Castle Bandits (S King, B Evans 26) 244; Clickies (E Walters 28) 254; Roller Coasters (C Thomas 22) 215; Breakaways (V Martin 25) 223; Cad Con Fillies (A Beattie 28) 240; After Eight (P Bryant 27) 196; Witchill Widows (L Spyrou 40) 288; Fallen

Angels (C Jones 33) 334; Rhose Starlights (D Stradling 29) 265; Castaways (J Tobin, J Byrne, G Drew 25) 239; Airways Angels (A Crook, L Thomas 25) 235; S V Lights (P Beadle 26) 202.

Third division: Little Devils (J Jones, S Evans 27) 235; La Belles (C Knight, S Curtis, R Clogg, S Webber 23) 224; Rebels (R Sutton 29) 250; Rugby Triers (S Coghill 30) 237; Challengers (B Griffiths 39) 324; Witches (S Beer 30) 247; Uptown Girls (J Cosslett 26) 248; Dolly Mixtures (E Peckham 27) 226; SV Ladies (S Humphries 30) 247; Etcetera (C Mackintosh 31) 261; Westenders (M Davies 25) 236; Twilights (T Davies 26) 248.

Fourth division: Nite Outers (J Baker 26) 214; Liberals (A Boyd 26) 163; Aristocats (T Weston 27) 209; Witchill Wanderers (C Reynolds 24) 187; Socialites (D Marks 32) 268; Odd Bods (S Hazlewood 30) 172; Living On A Spare (M Pring 32) 320; Guardian Angels (S Dike 29) 292.

THE captain's drive-in for Raymond Thomas, the recently installed captain of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society, took place last Thursday at Southerndown Golf Club when 42 members assembled at the first tee to witness the traditional opening shot of the new golfing season.

Gale force winds reaching a reported 80 miles per hour failed to deter the contestants and it was not surprising the majority of the balls that failed to return home were carried on the strong winds heading towards the Bristol Channel.

Golf bags and electric trolleys being blown over was a regular feature and despite the hazardous conditions caused by Storm Doris, everyone completed their round.

Not surprisingly 28 stableford points was good enough for Bryan Wadham to collect the Southerndown Cup from the day's generous sponsor, Mr Glyn Watts-

Jones.

Runner-up, also with 28 points but an inferior back nine, was Gareth Perkins with John Cains taking third place with 27 points, one more than Chris Watson who finished in fourth place.

Nearest the pin on the Watts & Morgan sponsored par-3 holes were Dai John, Aubrey Thomas and Julian Kelly.

Rhyddian Harris, with 29 points and playing off a handicap of five, won the visitor's prize with David Evans finishing runner-up with 24 points.

Mark Dowling collected the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge sponsored longest drive prize when hitting an enormous drive assisted by 'Doris' down the sixth hole and Tony McCarthy returned home with the Premier Turf sponsored bottle of whiskey when guessing 59 balls would not make it back to the clubhouse. This raised £86 for the Bridgend branch of The Stroke Association.

The society's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 30 at Ashburnham Golf Club, sponsored by Cowbridge solicitors Glamorgan Law.

T.McC

Under-13s take heart from win

THE Llantwit Major under-13 rugby team had some tough matches over the previous few weeks and the coaches have been working hard with the squad to boost their confidence and improve their technical skills.

The team was looking forward to the match against Llantrisant, to show their coaches that they had listened and the hard work in training had been paying off.

The match started with strong attacking moves and good tackling from the Llantwit side. The forwards were determined to make their presence felt and the backs wanted the chance to use the moves and skills that they had been practising.

The Llantwit side soon saw the benefits of all their hard work and throughout the game they dominated Llantrisant with their strong forward work and

quick back moves. They were able to use their strength to break through in the close contact work and also use their pace to ship the ball through the backs' hands to put players into space.

Tries for the team were scored by Sam (two), Will (two), Josh (two) and Iestyn (two). Everyone worked hard to keep the pressure on the Llantrisant side who were only able to get over the try line twice throughout the whole game.

The match finished with a great result for the home team and a score of 40-12. While the team know that there is more to do this was a great confidence boost and proof that working hard in training brings results on the pitch.

Squad: Ioan, Dafydd, Jaydon, Dan C, Dan F, Sam, Tom, Nathan, Aaron, Will, Kyle, Luke, Lewis M, Lewis I, Dylan, Iestyn, Josh.

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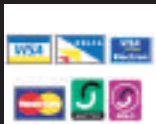
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Close-run game for Bridgend Athletic

A NARROW defeat in this rearranged fixture between Bridgend Athletic and Aberavon Quins, played in good conditions, has probably consigned the Athletic to fighting for the minor honours in Division 1 West Central this season.

There is now little prospect of winning the division and progressing to the play-offs for a speedy return to the Championship and the word for the remainder of the season is surely to concentrate on developing the young talent available at the club to good effect for the future.

The home side had the better of the early exchanges and the Athletic front row of

Wayne Fooks, Matt Muir and hooker Lee Murphy were under pressure at the scrums. After 10 minutes or so Murphy body checked an opponent and was sent to the sin-bin as Quins outside half Mark Sheppard opened the scoring with a well struck penalty. With one man short, the visitors had to defend for their lives and solid work by captain Ben Howe and former captain Sean Williams kept the Quins at bay. On Murphy's return the Athletic raised their game and some strong runs by flanker Johnny Howard and locks Chris John and Jon Stoker had the Athletic on the front foot. When the Athletic were penalised for a ruck infringement the Quins loose-head retaliated and was shown a yellow card. The Athletic pressed strongly with

young fly-half Luke Bevan kicking well to the corner but poor control at a lineout allowed the home side to clear. This followed two penalty kicks at goal that were both pushed wide.

Aberavon Quins, in a rare moment of endeavour, counter-attacked and cut through to the Athletic posts where a clear forward pass saved the Bridgend side, although the pass that started the move looked suspiciously adjacent too.

Nevertheless, with the home pack restored to a full complement the Athletic gave up a penalty at the resulting scrum in front of their posts and Sheppard once again converted to give the home side a lead of 6-0 at half-time.

In the second-half the Ath were intent on moving the ball more and scrum half Aled Thomas tried to bring in his young back-line with centres Stuart Floyd-Ellis and Tom Jenkins (an 11th hour replacement for Chris Price) carrying the ball determinedly and wings Harry Griffiths and Youth scrum-half Dan James, playing out of position looking to take on their opponents whenever the opportunities arose.

The Quins were kicking deep and another Youth team player Sam Richards was equal to the demands and returned everything with interest or attempted to get his team going forward. Ben Howe made a storming run that eventually led to another penalty attempt that hit

the post. By this time the home team were down to 14 men for another ten minutes with their hooker earning the displeasure of the referee. This meant that their scrum was now feeling the pressure but the Ath were unable to capitalise as sloppy mistakes, poor ball retention and decision making hampered their play.

Just as the home team was restored to full strength the Athletic exerted some telling pressure and two or three quick pick and drives towards the Quins posts allowed quick ball to be moved quickly left and young Dan James squirmed over for a corner try that Stuart Floyd-Ellis converted from the touchline to give the visitors the lead.

Back came the visitors and pressed hard on the Quins 22 but a ruck penalty and then an offside call led to Sheppard kicking at goal from 45 metres out.

His effort hit the post but an Athletic player was judged to have touched the ball as it bounced into a colleague's hands and another penalty was awarded in front of the posts, from which Sheppard made no mistake to give the home team what was to prove a winning lead.

Despite striving manfully to claw back the deficit it wasn't the visitors' night and the game finished with the Quins driving the ball to maintain a stranglehold on possession and running out 9-7 winners. MD



Photos by John Canon.



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Cowbridge Darts League round-up

ON Tuesday, February 21 a full programme of league matches was played.

It was an evening of the local derbies. At the Edmondson Arms, the Edmondson C just beat the Edmondson A 5-4, while at the Farmers Arms, the Farmers Arms defeated the Hairy Farmers 6-3.

In this game Nigel Thomas (Farmers Arms) hit 103, three-dart-out. This was the third time this season that Nigel has had an out over 100.

It was not a good night for the two teams at the wrong end of the league table.

The Edmondson B beat the Red Lion 9-0 and Llanharry beat the Victoria Inn by the same score.

In the battle for second place the Six Bells Inn 5-4 victory against the Highwayman Inn was not enough for them to regain second spot.

Present league standings, after 18

weeks, are: Edmondson B (118 points), Highwayman Inn (102), Six Bells Inn (101), Llanharry and Edmondson A (88), Edmondson C (83), Hairy Farmers and Farmers Arms (74), Victoria Inn (66) and Red Lion (16).

Next week (Tuesday, February 21) another full programme of league matches is scheduled.

The Edmondson B hosts the Highwayman Inn, the Victoria Inn hosts the Edmondson A, the Farmers Arms hosts Llanharry, the Red Lion hosts the Edmondson C and the Six Bells Inn hosts the Hairy Farmers.

All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are always welcome.

For further information e-mail Paul a t cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

PJT

Bridgend Bridge Club

THE results for recent events at Bridgend Bridge Club are:

Wednesday, February 22: first, Dave Lea and Graham Norris; second, Irene Thomas and Graham Jones; third, Steve Burgoyne and John Evans. The winners on handicap were Dave Lea and Graham Norris.

Thursday, February 23: first, Maggie and Richard Ashpole; second, Ann Fox and Colin Lewis; third, Geoff and Christine Tinkler. The winners on handicap were Ann Fox and Colin Lewis.

Friday, February 24: first Debbie and Simon Richards; second, Irene and Graham Jones; third, Dave and Debbie Lea. The winners on handicap were Irene Thomas and Graham Jones.

Regular club nights are at Noltan Church Hall on Wednesday and Friday evenings at 7pm; it helps if players arrive 10 minutes early to enable a prompt start.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, again at Noltan Church Hall, there is a gentle bridge session. Advice is available on bidding; master points are awarded while remaining a relaxed occasion. Lessons for beginners take place on Thursday mornings at 11.30am, there is usually a seminar for improvers at 1.30pm.

For further details about the club contact either Steve Burgoyne on 01656 661968, John Evans on 01656 880372 or David Newman on 01656 649138.

Cefn Cribwr blow away Carnetown

CEFN Cribwr welcomed league newcomers Carnetown FC to Cae Gof on a very wet and windy Saturday afternoon, with league newcomers entering the league almost three months after everybody else, they were looking to get games in the bag.

Cefn who were depleted with five of the starting 11 from last week missing with injuries, undoubtedly started the brighter of the two teams and despite a heavy pitch played some lovely football.

The hosts were awarded a penalty after a clever free kick routine saw playmaker Dan Jenkins get brought down in the box. He made no mistakes from 12 yards out to put Cefn ahead and go into the break a goal to the good.

The second half started slowly but Cefn youngster Ioan Clatworthy fired home from 20 yards out, straight into the top

corner, to double the lead and score his first senior goal.

The home side were looking to put the visitors to the sword when a breakaway attack saw the visitors nick a goal with a lovely finish to get themselves back in the game.

Cefn calmed down and looked dangerous and it wasn't a surprise when Cefn scored again with Adam James stroking the ball into the net.

The hosts made quick time to increase their lead with a contender for goal of the season from young left back Ross Hooper, who took the ball and shot from 30 yards out, the ball flying into the top corner.

Carnetown were done and Cefn's fitness showed when Adam James completed his brace.

Cefn would like to thank the home support and also Mr Conor McCluskey of CM Utilities for sponsoring the game.



SIX NATIONS RUGBY

SCOTLAND 29 WALES 13



After the England match heroics, an old problem rears its head, as flying Scots show Wales just what to do when opportunity knocks...



Pictures by the
Huw Evans Agency.

ABOVE: The one bright highlight as Liam Williams rounds off a fine Welsh move in the corner, but it was all downhill from there as Scotland took control. Centre, boxed-in George North was given little chance to shine. Far right, the mercurial Duncan Hogg, arm aloft in triumph.



BACK PAGE COMMENT

by Don John

IN the aftermath of Saturday's shock 13-29 defeat at Murrayfield, with hindsight it was perhaps too much to expect that a Wales team still struggling to settle on a 'new way after Warrenball', could again raise their game to the level and intensity of that heroic display against title favourites England in Cardiff.

However, who could have foreseen the near-complete collapse in a truly abysmal second half that saw the lively Scots rattle up 20 points without reply – and break a cycle of nine successive defeats to Wales since 2008?

That was the Grand Slam year when newly-appointed Wales coach Warren Gatland took charge of the squad, and the following year he recorded the first of four wins in the Scottish capital, ironically by a 13-26 margin.

The Kiwi was there again on Saturday – this time as a spectator in the capacity crowd, to run the rule over likely Six

Nations candidates in his role as head coach for the Lions' summer tour to New Zealand, and the TV cameras showed him looking pensive as red shirts imploded in front of him.

And well he might, for on that performance alone, few of his regular charges had staked a convincing claim to a seat on the plane, while the worrying collapse added fuel to fears that Welsh play overall is on a backward slide from the trophy-filled days of the early Gatland era, and is revealing its old Achilles' heel – wildly inconsistent peaks and troughs – while his attention is turned to Lions' duties.

How else to explain the stark contrast between the magnificent, gutsy display that almost overcame mighty England, and the floundering, error-ridden capitulation in the face of a lesser Scottish challenge just two weeks later?

What had changed to explain this startling inconsistency? Certainly not the team – for caretaker head coach, Robert Howley, had responded to widespread criticism of actions taken from the Welsh bench during the loss to the English, by naming his original starting line-up (with George North returning) for a make or break pivotal game in the battle for the championship.

He was, perhaps, still smarting from the critical fallout over the second-half changes that saw many people's choice for man-of-

the-match, Ross Moriarty, among other key players, taken off, which crucially hit team momentum, and along with a defensive lapse in the dying minutes, arguably cost Wales a famous victory.

Howley insisted that player monitoring during the game had shown the rampaging No 8 was "beginning to tire" following a six-day turnaround since the Italy match in Rome, and they had brought on Taulupe Faletau, recently returned from injury, and with limited game time.

"The England head coach Eddie Jones had emptied his bench to a certain extent, and we needed fresh legs on. The six-day turnaround has an influence on players and we felt we were making the right decisions..."

"It shows our strength in depth," he maintained. Moriarty had deserved to start in a retained Welsh back row to face the Scots: "It puts pressure on Toby, a good pressure...To have a strong bench as we have, is key. We were disappointed with our bench against England and we are looking for better impact this weekend."

In the end, debates over the relative merits of individuals were rendered academic in the post-match gloom of the team's collective failure to match more enterprising, livelier opponents, who though seemingly out-powered, had made the most of their opportunities – while the error-prone men in red were spurning theirs with profligate dropped passes, lost

possession, and turnovers all adding to growing Welsh frustration.

The Scots gratefully took advantage, with man-of-the-match, Finn Russell, comfortably pulling the strings at outside half and punishing indiscretions with the boot, including three first half penalties.

In fact, Wales were still well in the hunt at half time, changing over with a 13-9 lead, thanks to a well-worked corner try by wing Liam Williams, converted by Leigh Halfpenny, who also landed two penalties, though crucially missing a third.

They were not to score again as everything fell apart in a dismal second half that clearly belonged to Scotland (though two Welsh touchdowns were ruled out).

In the end, two brilliantly executed crossfield tries by Tommy Seymour and Tim Visser, both converted by Russell, set the seal on a comprehensive Scottish victory. The fly half added a penalty minutes from time that deservedly keeps them in the hunt for a prized Triple Crown.

For the Welsh camp, it is now "all about pride" as they prepare to host Ireland in the penultimate match on March 10: "Our championship is over. It was disappointing and frustrating... the performance was just not good enough", said a grim-faced Howley.

He and his under-fire fellow coaches know that a repeat of Saturday's second half display at the Principality Stadium could well prove to be the straw that broke the camel's back.



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